

THE RIO NEWS.

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NUMBER 32

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Theophilo Ottoni. Wm. T. TOWNES, Consul General.BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL.—65, Rua 1º de
Março. E. NICOLINI, Acting Consul.

Church Directory

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ing service every Sunday at 11 a.m. Evening service
during cool season according to notice. Holy communion
after morning service on 1st Sunday in the month and
on 3rd Sunday at 9 a.m. Baptisms after morning ser-
vice, or at other times by special arrangement.

HENRY MOSLEY, M.A. British Chaplain.

Rua dos Lavareiros.

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João Tavares.PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—No. 15 Travessa da Barreira.
Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m., and 7
p.m., Sundays; and at 7 p.m. Thursdays.

ANTONIO LINO DA COSTA, Pastor.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—Rua Baía de Capaneia No. 13.
Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m. and
7 p.m.; and every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

W. B. BAGBY, Pastor.

Residence: Ladeira do Senado No. 22.

Medical Directory

Dr. William Frederick Eisenlohr, German Physi-
cian. Office: 78, Rua General Camara. Consulting hours
from 12 to 3 p.m.Dr. Ed. Chaput Prevost, professor of Histology, espe-
cially of Gynecology, and Surgery in the Faculty of Medicine.
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dence No. 3, Rua Alice, Laxeiras.

Miscellaneous.

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6 p.m. For terms, apply to Librarian.RIO SAMEN'S MISSION.—Rest and Reading Room.—
35, rua do Saude, 1st floor. Henry BARNETT, Mis-
sioner. Gifts of books, magazines, papers, etc. or
left-off clothing, will be gratefully received at the Mission
or at No. 22, rua Theophilo Ottoni.IGREJA EVANGELICA FLUMINENSE.—Rua Largo
de S. Joaquim, No. 179.—Owne service in Portuguese
on Sundays: Prayer meeting at 10 a.m.; Worship at 11
a.m. Biblical class to study the Holy Scriptures, at 5 1/2
afternoon. Gospel preaching at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays.
Biblical study, and preaching, at 7 p.m.

JOÃO M. G. DOS SANTOS, Pastor.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS

—The population of Uruguay was estimated on
December 31st, 1894, at 776,314 inhabitants.—The Argentine press has been warmly ap-
plauding the attitude of Brazil in the Triadade
question.—Swarms of locusts have recently invaded the
provinces of Santa Fé and Corrientes. They come
from the Chaco.—The Argentine government proposes to pur-
chase merchant steamers for the coasting trade
south. It is hardly a commendable scheme.—The Argentine congressmen are privately con-
sidering a project for the coinage of 5, to and 20
centavo nickel pieces. They would be much pre-
ferable in the filthy script now used.—Two officers embarked at Buenos Aires on the
30th for England to bring on the new Argentine
cruiser *Buenos Aires*. It is expected that the
cruiser will arrive in Argentine waters early in
October.—The Buenos Aires *Review* was astounded the
other day to find Livesey pot sleepers, costing \$10
currency, at a place where the incomparable hand-
fuly sleeper can be supplied at \$1.20 to \$1.80
currency, each. It is quite clear, neighbor; there
were no "return commissions" on the wooden
sleepers.—The Buenos Aires *Review* calls attention to
the stupid internal regulation which compels pas-
sengers by the river boats to have their luggage
examined at Rosario, although they can go by rail
without incurring such treatment. It is something
like the custom formerly prevailing here as between
Rio and Santos.—A new project has been introduced into the
Argentine Congress for the compulsory naturaliza-
tion of foreigners. At the end of ten years' re-
sidence they are to be considered citizens, un-
less they make a formal declaration to the con-
trary. Would it not be better to make Argentine
citizenship worthy of the spontaneous acceptance
of foreign residents?—The committee of the British Hospital are pre-
paring for a week of Fetes during next month at
the Pabellon Argentino and have asked a number
of very representative gentlemen to assist them in
the arrangements so that the English community
may have some enjoyable gatherings something
like the Fiestas St. Cloud that were recently so
successfully managed by our French neighbors, and
it is suggested that the prices of admission
should be moderate and within reach of all the
British community in order to make the entertain-
ments popular in the widest sense. The proceeds
are to be devoted to building new wards that are
urgently wanted in order to meet the increasing
requirements of the hospital, and notwithstanding
the very considerable increase of accommodation
provided by the proceeds of the bazaar in 1892, so
large has been the number of patients during the
past year that on 107 days it has happened that
one or other of the wards has been overcrowded.
—*Times*, Buenos Aires, July 18.—The Argentine government has resolved to
adopt rigorous measures against those who have
neglected to attend national guard drill.—To facilitate the development of Patagonia it
is said that President Urquibard will declare the
ports of the south open to commerce without
restrictions.—The exports of cereals from Uruguay for the
first six months of the current year have com-
prised 12,418 tons maize, 47,154 tons wheat, 10,024
tons flour, 221 tons oats, 370 tons birdseed, 2,319
tons bran.—The total debt of Uruguay on July 1st was
\$105,403,965, gold, of which \$89,414,962 re-
presented the 3 1/2 per cent. "consolidated debt,"
and \$15,989,000 that absurd Brazilian loan made
by the Banco Crédito Popular.—Colonel Fernandez, formerly governor of the
"fortlet" on Cerro hill, Montevideo, has been
sentenced to five years' imprisonment for irregu-
larities in the keeping of its powder magazine.
Large quantities of dynamite and powder were
found to be missing after being deposited there
by private firms.—The Paraguayan government has resolved to
create an official bank, to be known as the "Banco
del Republica." It is to have a capital of \$4,000,000
gold, one-fourth of which will be subscribed by
the government. It is an ambitious under-
taking for so small and poor a country, and will
inevitably end in disaster.—According to a telegram of July 9 to a Belgian
paper, the Italian government decided to sell the
cruiser *Garibaldi* to Argentina because of "defects
in construction and inferiority of the type of its
boilers." The price agreed upon was 7 1/2 millions
liras for the ship and 8 millions for the armament.
It is a good price to pay for a defective cruiser,
surely.—The export of live stock since the beginning
of this year has reached enormous figures. On
July the 15th, since the beginning of the year
42,296 head of cattle, 744 horses, 1453 mules,
214,477 sheep, and 4195 pigs left the Madero
port, and during the second week of this month
2438 bullocks, 5400 sheep, and 200 pigs were
shipped at the same port. These figures will give
an idea of the extent to which the live stock ex-
port business has now grown.—*Sport and Pastime*,
Buenos Aires, July 17.—The enthusiastic and intensely patriotic youth
of Rosario and Cordoba are bent upon showing
the youth of Valparaiso that they can raise sub-
versive cries against Chile at a moment's notice.
The intemperate youth of both republics might
with equal advantage be allowed to meet in the
Cordilleras and settle international affairs in their
own fashion; a few days' experience in these
altitudes would doubtless cool their excessive
patriotic ardor. Sensational efforts of both sides
should be held off to direct them.—*Times*, Buenos
Aires, July 18.—In one respect at least the vital statistics of
Buenos Aires are satisfactory. The decrease of
deaths from tuberculosis is quite a distinctly mark-
ed feature. During the quinquennium ending
with 1889 the rate was 255 per 100,000, and in
the subsequent quinquennium it had fallen to 212.
It is, of course, somewhat difficult to trace the
cause of this, but it seems reasonable to conclude,
as some of our doctors have done, that the im-
provement is largely due to sanitary reforms, and
more particularly to the better drainage of the
city.—*Review*, Buenos Aires.—The report submitted by the minister of gov-
ernment in the La Plata legislature is not consol-
ing, either for teachers, or those who are
interested in the cause of education. The am-
ount due for salaries is between \$900,000 and
\$1,000,000, and to meet this the department is
only in possession of some \$50,000. The reve-
nue due for this purpose from municipalities is
practically uncollectable, though the arrears am-
ount to over \$2,000,000. Other sources of in-
come are lamentably insufficient. Thus one of
the most important departments of all is starved
and rendered valueless.—*Review*, Buenos Aires.—The Cordilleras of the Andes have had passes
open up to the last few days, but the cold of the
last week must have frozen up everything with
any moisture in it, since when a heavy fall of snow
has taken place. Even round Buenos Aires snow
fell and some of the suburbs were quite enveloped
in white, but only for a very short time. In the
south a heavy fall took place, as much as eight
inches lying on the ground near Neucha, a Mar
del Plata was also clad in a robe of white for
a considerable time. The highest register of frost I
heard of in the sultrius was thirteen degrees Fahr.
on the ground.—*Sport and Pastime*, Buenos
Aires, July 17.—The Buenos Aires and Pacific railway, like
other foreign railways in Argentina, has a con-
tract which requires it to pay 50 per cent. of its
gross receipts to reimburse the government for
the guarantee advanced. The company now finds
itself face to face with the necessity of calling up
money from the shareholders to pay the govern-
ment. In other words, the shareholders must be
asked to pay for the pleasure of running a railway
in Argentina. On December 31st last the company
owed the Argentine government, under this con-
tract, the enormous sum of \$13,117,005.86, cur-
rency, of which \$2,072,069.61 represented in-
terest. The government at the same time owed
the company \$2,785,756.48, gold, from which it
results that the company then owed the govern-
ment a balance of about £200,000.—A correspondent sends us the following par-
ticulars regarding ramie:—"The climate of Para-
guay is undoubtedly suited for the growing of
this plant—monte soil being the most adaptable,
one square of 100 by 100 vs. will hold 10,000
plants. Best time for planting the months of July,
August and September, and the plants must be
seedlings. The beds should be got ready in April
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tons of fibre, and you can get four crops a year
and if no frosts vice, but four are sure. The fibre
placed on the London market is worth from £15
to £18. Probable profit say at £15 per ton, cal-
culating two tons per square, \$4, which gives a
net profit of 200 pounds per annum. This cer-
tainly looks very well, and I am told by an expert
that he did not think the expenses would be any-
thing like 100 per square, but it is always best to
be on the safe side."—*Sport and Pastime*.

Banks.**LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED.**

Capital..... £ 1,500,000
Capital paid up..... " 750,000
Reserve fund..... " 600,000

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(Calais 108.)

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(Calais 550.) (Calais 185.)

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	Union Bank of London, Limited, London.	
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	Heine & Co., Paris.	
	Lazard Frères & Co., Paris.	
	André Neufville & Co., Paris.	
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	H. Albert de Bay & Co., Antwerp.	
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	Genoa, and correspondents.	
Portugal.....	Banco Lisbon & Agos and corres- pondents.	
United States.....	G. Amsinck & Co., New York.	
	Ladenburg, Thilman & Co., New York.	
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PARIS: 16, Rue Halévy.

Rio de Janeiro:

No. 1 A, Rua da Candelaria.

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Reserve fund " 900,000

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From The Southern Cross, July 5th.

VENEZUELA AND ITS CAPITAL.

III.

For places of amusement Caracas has its
opera house, theatre, and "plaza de to-
ros." The former is built on the site of a
convent of pious and charitable ladies, in
whom the poor and the orphan children of
the city had tireless and never-failing friends.
Guzman Blanco seized their property and
razed their buildings to the ground for the
purpose of erecting a theatre to be named
after himself—"Teatro Guzman Blanco."
The name of the building has long since
been changed, but it was monstrous that
Don Guzman should ever have it in his
power to seize on anybody's property for
the purpose of erecting a building in his
own glorification.

This fellow, Blanco, was a disgrace to the
masonic body, whose shining light he was
during his reign in Caracas.
No man ever better feathered his nest
by masonry than did Guzman Blanco.
He had the egregious vanity to try and per-
petuate his memory by the erection of three
statues to himself, to wit, an equestrian
statue in the plaza in La Guayra; a ditto in
Caracas in front of the capitol, and the
third, a bronze life-size statue erected on an
immense pedestal on the most elevated site
of the park, of which mention has already
been made, as though Guzman were the
guardian genius of the capital. The people
long ago kicked those idols down, and in-
deed they should never have allowed them
to be set up. And one fine day Don Guz-
man, finding the country becoming a little
too hot to hold him, went down the moun-
tain to La Guayra, and on board a steamer
bound for Europe, from whence he never
returned. He took up his residence in Pa-
ris, where he lives in regal splendor to
the present day, being often seen driving
on the grand boulevards in a coach and
four. It appears he can afford to do that.
The Venezuelans sorrowfully tell you that
in leaving Caracas, along with his masonic
insignia, he took with him, by way of

a "recuerdo" of Venezuela, the trifle of
twenty million dollars gold, which he fled-
ed from the public treasury. All hail to
these Don Guzman, for surely thou wert a
sensible "francemason."

We will now return to Caracas. The
national library contains some 60,000 vol-
umes, mostly in Spanish and French. It is
installed in a handsome building which the
late President—Palacios—erected to serve
as a private mansion for himself, but which
was confiscated by the present government
and diverted to its present uses, immedi-
ately after the triumph of the revolution
which drove Palacios from power and com-
pelled him to follow in the wake of Guz-
man Blanco. The reading tables are rang-
ed under the balconies which surround the
spacious and richly mosaic-tiled 'patio'.
Altogether it is a cool, comfortable, and
convenient place to read in. The frequen-
ters of the library have reason to rejoice
that old Palacios went to the trouble and
expense of building such a commodious
residence for himself.

Caracas is not a very cosmopolitan city,
though there are a good many French and
German residents. These last maintain a
flourishing club of their own. The princi-
pal railway in Venezuela—that from Ca-
racas to Valencia—is owned by a German
company. There is but a very small Eng-
lish-speaking colony in this city. There is
no British legation here, as diplomatic
relations were long ago broken off with
Great Britain.

One fine day, in the year 1823, the citi-
zens of La Guayra were astonished to see
200 Scotch Highlanders in all the glory of
kilts, plaids and barehins arrive amongst
them. They had been sent out to found a
colony in the neighborhood by an English
company called "The Colombian Agricul-
tural Association," which had been formed
during that speculative era. The colony
soon went to the dogs for lack of resources,
for the English company that had started
it, finding that it was not going to be quite
as remunerative as they had expected, soon
began to desert the colonists and refused to
furnish them with anything but fine pro-
mises and hymn-books, and finally sever-
ing their connection with them altogether,
alleging that they (the Scotchmen) were
misconducting themselves and refreshing
their stomachs to too great an extent with
Venezuelan "caña." The truth was that
the poor Scotchmen were not making mo-
ney fast enough for the cool, calculating
speculators over the border that had sent
them out to toil in the tropics for them,
and so they soon found themselves aban-
doned altogether. A good many of them
died, and the rest soon became scattered
over the West Indies. Few of the poor
fellows were ever gladdened by the sight of
their native hearth again.

There are a good many families in Ca-
racas bearing Irish names, but if you happen
to be introduced to any of them you soon
find that they don't speak English. They
are mostly descendants of Spanish-Irish
families and of the Irish officers who took
part in the war of independence. An even-
ing paper called *El Combate* was lately
edited and owned by one of them—Don
Eduardo O'Brien. It would appear, how-
ever, that it was a little *too combative* and
outspoken to suit the present government
and so it was one evening suddenly sup-
pressed, its editor—Senor O'Brien—being
put in prison and thus placed *hors de combat*.

Within the last few years a good number
of immigrants—chiefly Spaniards and na-
tives of the Canary islands—have come to the
country at the expense of the government.
A good many Italians and "Naps" also
came over, the result of which was that
the citizens of Caracas soon had the satisfac-
tion of seeing two new and flourishing in-
dustries added to the number of those al-
ready existing in the city, viz, macaroni
manufacture and boot-blackening on the
streets. There is more than one thriving
macaroni factory in Caracas to-day, and as
for the boot-blackening industry, I have been
assured by an individual who is actually
engaged in it, that it is in a most flourish-
ing condition and that the amount of
"denaro" that he himself has earned at it,
has far exceeded his most sanguine anti-
cipations. All the approaches to the Plaza
Bolívar are held by strong detachments of
good-humored "Naps" with brass rings
on their ears and shoe-polishing outfits
slung on to their backs, prepared at a mo-
ment's notice to make the dust fly with
lightning rapidity from the boots of the

passing pedestrian, and only expecting for
this important service "cinque soldi" from
Venezuelans, but "dieci" or "quindice"
from such fair-complexioned individuals as
are suspected of being "inglesi." Soon
after sundown these various detachments
undergo a kind of mobilization and form
themselves into a boot-blackening exchange.
The pedestrian who has occasion to pass by
the corner of the Plaza during the twilight
hour, is very apt to hear an interesting col-
loquy among the members as to the con-
dition of the trade in general, and their re-
spective earnings during the fiscal "giorno"
ending at sunset, all their financial opera-
tions being invariably reckoned up in "liri"
and "soldi." While being professionally
served by a member of this exchange on a
recent occasion, I was entertained by him
with some interesting facts and figures re-
lating to the industry with which he is con-
nected. He assured me that though he was
earning plenty of money he was neverthe-
less dissatisfied with the country and the
"mangione" to be found in it, and was only
waiting to earn a few hundred more "liri"
before returning to Italy, for as the hearts
of the Israelites of old were always turned
towards the land of promise during their
long wanderings in the desert, so the hearts
of the poorer classes of Italians in America
are ever turned towards "la bella Italia".
"Si signor," said the poor Nap, as he stow-
ed away his fee in a long and bulky red
wallet, "voglio sortire da questa terra sal-
vaggio." He was about to enter on an elab-
orate exposition of his reason for thus
entertaining such a contemptuous opinion
of Venezuela, but, catching sight of a tall
swallow-tail coated individual coming round
the corner, who looked like a lawyer or
a politician, and whose boots appeared
to stand in need of a shine, he hastily
gathered up his professional apparatus, and
was soon at the feet of the new-comer
and lessening the sum that stood between
him and the realization of his wish to return
to Italy, by another "cinque soldi."

"That Venezuela has not been as well
patronized by immigrants as Brazil or the
Argentine republic is, can only be accounted
for by the extreme ignorance respecting it
which prevails among the poorer classes of
European immigrants. Few countries
offer more unexceptional facilities to the
immigrant for securing a competence, and
even a fortune. Besides, the working
classes are here paid in gold, for, unlike
the Argentine republic and Brazil, this
country is not cursed by an inconvertible
currency. There is a brilliant future in
store for Venezuela, for it is undoubtedly
one of the finest countries on the habitable
globe. There is abundance of gold, copper
and iron ore. Your correspondent has
been assured that most satisfactory results
have attended the working of the mines of
these metals in the interior. Besides these
great sources of wealth, coffee, sugar, and
particularly cocoa of superior quality, are
cultivated to a considerable extent.

Like the Argentine republic, Venezuela
has hundreds of leagues of pampas, or
"llanos," as they call them here; vast
plains where the eye, in the compass of a
wide horizon, often does not discover an
eminence of six feet high, and through
which the mighty Orinoco sweeps majestically.
These pampas are covered with
luxuriant pasture on which millions of
horned cattle, sheep, horses and mules are
fed. The export of the hides of the ani-
mals forms one of the chief branches of the
commerce of Venezuela. It is really a pity
that revolutions are of such frequent oc-
currence, for they must necessarily retard
the country's progress. Under a steady and
honest administration, Venezuela would
soon occupy the foremost rank in Spanish-
American nations. It is a pity that a few
cartloads of the generals, colonels and sur-
plus army officers and politicians of every
kind, could not be carted down the
mountain from Caracas to La Guayra, and
there shipped to the North or South Pole,
or to some other part of the universe from
whence they could never return. Vene-
zuela would be well rid of them. What
the country wants are agriculturists and not
agitators. The present government can
scarcely be said to be popular with the
masses; still less its head—General Crespo.
His villa residence in the suburbs, where
he lives, is always strongly guarded by a
whole battalion of infantry. On going to
and from the government house, he is
always accompanied by a mounted and
armed escort dressed *à la gaucha*. The
spectacle of the chief magistrate of the

nation riding in the midst of such a lot of rough-looking customers, can scarcely be said to be edifying. He is not accused of having accepted the presidency from mercenary motives, for the office is not worth the half it costs him to get. Besides, it is well known that he is immensely wealthy, owning, as he does, some of the finest estates in the country—estancias which are stocked with upwards of 80,000 head of horned cattle—besides a palatial city residence and a suburban villa. Crespo does not need to fleece the treasury, as so many of his predecessors have done before him. It is to be regretted that there should be so much division and dissimilarity amongst political parties in Venezuela, inasmuch as it precludes the possibility of their taking any joint action in the direction of checking British encroachments on the national territory. It must be a constant source of mortification and exasperation to all enlightened Venezuelans to see their rich and splendid territory being gradually absorbed and gobbled up by foreigners with whom they are in no way connected by ties of kindred, creed and language—this same territory for the independence of which their fathers fought, and bled, and suffered untold hardships during the long war with Spain; being often obliged to subsist for months at a time on meat without even salt to season it with, and without clothing of any kind save such as could be made out of untanned cowhides.

For the last few years, the Venezuelans have been clinging to the forlorn hope that the United States government will one day or other interfere in their behalf in this vexed question; but, indeed, it would appear as though the Americans were too busy chasing the "almighty dollar" to have any time to trouble their heads about the wants and wishes of the Venezuelan people. Men of the civic virtues of the immortal Washington are mighty few and far between among American politicians nowadays, if their country's press does not belie them greatly. Anyhow, if Americans really believe in, and are prepared to stand by, the principles enunciated by the Monroe doctrine, it is certainly about time that they gave practical proofs of it to the Spanish-American people. In the Anglo-Venezuelan imbroglio the United States government has confined its action to a mild attempt at intervention with the English government.

Surely Venezuelan politicians ought to have patriotism enough to make mutual sacrifices on the altar of their country, and make common cause with the government in repelling British encroachments on the region of the Orinoco. At the present rate of British progression towards the westward, it is safe to assume that, unless it is checked, the "flag for a thousand years," etc., will be seen waving, within the next generation or two, over the Casa Amarilla in Caracas, and the Plaza Bolívar will be made to resound with Salvation Army hymns sung to the tune of "We won't go home till morning," or "The night before Larry was stretched," or to some such inspiring music.

Meantime the Monroe doctrine is supposed to exist, but, up to the present, the poor Venezuelans have no reason to suppose that it is worth anything more than "words, words, words."

GIAOUR.

TRINIDAD ISLAND.

On the 20th of August, 1880, Mr. E. F. Knight, a London harrister, left Southampton on a yachting cruise to South America and the West Indies. His yacht, the *Falcon*, was of only 30 tons register, but with so small a craft Mr. Knight successfully completed an ocean and land journey of 22,000 miles, including a trip up the Paraná and Paraguay rivers, extending over a period of twenty months. On the outward voyage the yacht was manned by four amateurs and a cabin boy, but in October of the following year the party broke up at Buenos Aires, and Mr. Knight was left alone. He then engaged an Italian crew of three men, with which he prepared to return home by way of the West Indies.

After refitting, the *Falcon* left Buenos Aires November 4th, 1881, and Montevideo November 15th, clearing for Pernambuco. After encountering several storms and varying head winds, the yacht was near the latitude of Cape Frio on November 23rd when Mr. Knight concluded to improve the

opportunity to call at the deserted island of Trinidad. His account of the visit, which is told with a freedom and charm characteristic of the born yachtsman, was afterwards published in "The Cruise of the *Falcon*" (London, 1887). In view of the interest now taken in the desert island of Trinidad we take the liberty of reproducing Mr. Knight's descriptions and experiences.

In latitude 20° 30' south, and some 700 miles from the Brazilian coast, is situated the group of desert islands known as the Trinidad and Martin Vaz. Of these Trinidad is a fair-sized island, about fifteen English miles in circumference, with lofty, rugged mountains; as our course was likely to bring us somewhere in the vicinity, I thought it would be quite worth our while to effect a landing and explore it if possible.

The description of this islet in the "South Atlantic Directory" was certainly tempting, though hinting at dangers, and there were held out to us in this work promises of good fishing around its coasts, and sport among the hogs, and goats in its ravines, not to mention turtles, green food, wreckage, and other attractions. The following is taken from the description in the above-mentioned work:

"Trinidad is surrounded by sharp, rugged coral rocks, with an almost continual surge breaking on every part, which renders landing often precarious, and watering frequently impracticable, nor is there a possibility of rendering either certain, for the surf is often incredibly great, and has been seen during a gale at S. W., to break over a bluff which is 200 feet high. "Capt. Edmund Halley, afterwards Dr. Halley, Astronomer Royal, landed on this island the 17th of April, 1700, and put on it some goats and hogs, and also a pair of guinea fowl, which he carried from St. Helena. 'I look,' says his journal, 'possession of the island in his majesty's name, as knowing it to be granted by the king's letters patent, leaving the Union Jack flying.'"

"When the English went to Trinidad in 1781, in order to ascertain whether a settlement was practicable there, they did not find it answer their expectations."

"The American commander, Amasa Delano, visited Trinidad in 1803, and he, again, describes it as mostly barren, rough piece of rocky mountains. What soil there is on the island he found on the eastern side, where are several sand beaches, above one of which the Portuguese had a settlement."

"His settlement was directly above the most fertile sand-beach on the east side of the island, and has the best stream of water on the island running through it."

"Delano got his water off the south side of the island. Here a stream falls in a cascade over rocks some way up the mountains, so that it can be seen from a boat when passing it. After you have discovered the stream, you can land on a point of rocks just to the westward of the watering-place, and from thence may walk past it, and when a little to the eastward, there is a small cove among the rocks where you may float your casks off. Wood may be cut on the mountain just above the first landing-place, and you may take it off if you have a small oak boat."

"All the south side of the island is indented with small bays; but the whole is so iron-bound a coast and such a swell surging against it, that it is almost impossible to land a boat without great danger of staving it. The south part is a very remarkable high, square bluff-head, and is very large. There is a sand-beach to the westward of this head, but I should caution against landing on this beach; for just at the lower edge of it, and amongst the breakers, it is full of rocks, which are not seen till you are amongst them."

"If a ship is very much in need of wood and water it may be got at Trinidad; or if the crew should have the scurvy, it is an excellent place to recruit them in, as you can get plenty of greens on the southern part, such as purslain."

"We [Delano] found plenty of goats and hogs—the latter were very shy, but we killed some of them and a number of goats; we also saw some cats."

"When my men heard of my intention of sailing to this lone island of the South Atlantic, they expressed great delight, especially when they learnt that pigs and goats were reported to be its sole inhabitants. On this, the 23rd of November, after our ninth day out, Trinidad was about 1,000 miles to the north-east of us."

"The 7th of December was a calm, cloudless day, and hot. At eight a. m. we were about forty-six miles from Trinidad, at which distance its lofty mountains should be visible in clear weather."

As the sun rose higher we perceived to the south-east, in which direction we expected to discover the island, a bank of cloud on the horizon. We knew that the lonely rock of ocean lay in the midst of this, for all such lofty and isolated islands attract to them masses of clouds. The multitudes of fish, too, that swam around our vessel were a sure indication of the

presence of land. At eleven a. m. this vapor lifted somewhat, and we distinguished the whole rugged form of the iron-bound island, its pyramidal summits being capped by clouds."

But the ill-fate of Vanderdecken seemed still to attend us, for the wind, that though light had been fair, fell away. We had been allowed to catch a glimpse only of our much-desired port, when heavy banks of clouds rose from the south-east horizon with ominous rapidity, and scarce had we time to take in our spinnaker, and reef our main-sail, before the squall was on us, blowing right in our teeth from the direction of the island, and accompanied by a regular tropical downpour of rain. The whole heavens were now covered with rolling vapor, and of course the island became invisible to us."

The south-east wind blew throughout the rest of the day, and a steady drizzle set in, that promised to last some time, but taking short boards, we sailed on against wind and rain undismayed, for we were so near to our destination that we now could afford to laugh at the foul weather. Already we smelt the smell of roast pigs, and our mouths were watering at the thought of the delectable crisp crackling thereof."

At length the sky cleared, and in the moonlight we could more perceived Trinidad standing out black and distinct against a solitary white cloud crowning its highest peak. The wind blew steadily from the south-east. This is the prevailing wind off Trinidad, for the island lies outside the region of the Brazilian monsoon, and within the zone of the south-east trades."

At daybreak of the 8th of December we were becalmed under the lee of the island, about three miles from the beach, upon which we could hear the sea break furiously. Trinidad certainly appeared a wild and uninviting spot, a precipitous mass of barren volcanic rock, with lofty inaccessible summits, the whole surface being studded with sharp needle-like peaks."

We got out sweeps, and with their aid slowly approached the south-west corner of the island. I recognized many of the landmarks that previous navigators had described, the huge Monument—the Sugar-loaf and others—and on opening the south-west bay I perceived a considerable island of water leaping down a rugged, barren ravine in a series of cascades into the sea. This I soon concluded must be the one described in the Directory, and I determined to come to an anchor off it."

After having got our chain and anchor up from the hold, I sent the mate on in the boat to take soundings, and choose a suitable anchorage. He returned at midday, and reported that he had found bottom—coral, and broken shells—in eighteen fathoms, at about half a mile from the shore. Further in he said there were many dangerous rocks."

It was now a dead calm, so we towed the vessel towards the bay with our boat. As there was a slight current against us, this was pretty hard work, under the rays of a vertical sun. A 2.30 p. m. we came to an anchor off the cascade, the south-west point of the island bearing south-east, and Bird's Island, N.W. Bird Island, so named by its island of considerable size, peopled by thousands of sea-birds, that lies off the north point of South-West Bay."

Glad we were to hear our chain rattle out once more, even though in an open roadstead in mid-ocean, off a small desert island, after our weary twenty-four days of battling with the rainy monsoon."

Having made all snug, I decided to dine first, and then search for a landing-place in the boat. It did not look much like landing at all from our deck or masthead, for the great smooth ocean swell in which the *Falcon* now rose and fell so gently, broke heavily on the coral-fringed shore. There seemed to be one unbroken line of great breakers even on this the lee side of the island, and the roar of them reverberated among the rocky ravines like loud thunder, that did not sound encouraging to the explorers."

We enjoyed a very varied fish dinner, for the cook had not been idle with his lines. I was aware that the sea round this desert isle rarely visited by man and far distant from any main, always teemed with fish, but I had no idea that any portion of ocean ever swarmed with life to such a marvellous extent as is the case round this islet."

There was a species of black pig-fish, as the Italians call them, that surrounded us in vast shoals, so dense that the clear water presented an unbroken inky appearance in every direction for a time. There was another species of pig-fish, too, that was beautifully striped with broad bands of violet; there were fish of every colour of the rainbow, of every size and shape."

"Too much fish, Mistrare Niti!" exclaimed the cook, who gazed with an amazement almost mixed with fear at this more than realization of his very wildest piscatorial dream."

"Is it not a vision?" but I will try," and he forthwith cast his lines, and no sooner did the hook touch the water than hundreds of fish were at it, and the chief, indeed, only, skill required by the fisherman, was to haul the line quickly back before the secured prey was devoured by his cannibal brethren."

There were eight distinct varieties of fish, and all edible, crowding the waters

around our hull, and none were timid and shy, for what knew they of the insidious hooks that lay buried in the tempting morsels that these strange monsters that had visited their island for the first time were so kindly throwing to them?"

But now sharks, perceiving the unwonted commotion and large crowd of smaller fry that was collected round us, came up to discover what was going on. At one time there were quite thirty of these ugly monsters swimming round us. The other fish dispersed as they approached, and only the very greedy ones remained. The sharks spoilt our fishing somewhat during our stay off Trinidad; but not much, there was enough for all. What we chiefly objected to was their habit of biting some fine fish off our hooks before we could get him on board; but Mr. Shark got caught himself several times in consequence of this unneighborly practice, and even before our dinner this day we had hooked and slain four fair-sized sea-lawyers."

After dinner I pulled off in the boat with the mate and Panissa to discover a landing place, taking a musket and some fishing lines with me. On approaching the shore we found it run steep down, so that the sea only broke when it reached it, there not being two or three lines of breakers as is the case on gently shelving coasts. But though we rowed along the line of surf for some distance, we could nowhere perceive any spot on which a boat could be beached without running a great risk—indeed, certainly would be the proper word—of getting our stove in. There was but a narrow verge of beach between the cliffs and the breakers, and this was composed of sharp coral rocks and huge boulders fallen from the mountains; there were no sandy or pebbly beaches."

We could examine the shore very close, for the sea broke always so exactly in the same spot that we were enabled to keep the boat on the summit of a wave just before it was about to break, and look down on the beach below us."

We rowed under the Monument, which is a four-sided column of basaltic formation, quite 800 feet high, I should say,—separated from the cliff by a wide opening. We passed between Bird Island and the mainland, and pulled on for an hour to the northward, but everywhere the sea broke furiously on an iron-bound coast. We observed that little rivulets fell in cascades down every defile in the mountains, so of fresh water there was evidently an abundance on the island."

We could perceive no vegetation on the beach or on the lower slopes of the mountains, which were either precipitous or steep inclines of loose rocks and stones of every shape and size. But we noticed that there were plateaus and great domes at the summit of these hills, which were covered with a bright green grass or other herb, and, in places, forests of some sort of tree."

Amazed as we had been at the quantity of fish that swarmed in these waters, we were still more so when we perceived the myriads of sea-fowl of various species that covered this island. Seen at a distance many of the cliffs appeared white, as if of chalk, with the multitude of the snowy-plumaged birds that were perched on their honey-combed surface. Bold as had been the fish, these birds were more so. Hundreds of kittiwakes and certain great fluffy, hoarse-voiced fowl, whose true name I am unacquainted with, came off their cliffs to inspect us; they looked along, their number ever increasing. They kept up a continual chatter, no doubt discussing what we strange creatures could be, whether we were fish or birds, a new species of shark or albatross. They approached so near to us that we could knock them down with stretchers, and even catch them with our hands as they flew round our heads. But we saw no signs of any other life on the island, and commenced to entertain some doubts as to the existence of the pigs and goats. I think that after our experience with the fish and birds, we had half expected to see these quadrupeds flock down to the beach in battalions to welcome us to Trinidad."

We returned on board considerably disheartened at sunset, but were hungry and did justice to the cook's dinner of rock-cod and pig-fish. Falling land-pigs, that ardent disciple of Walton had caught "too much fish-pork."

The next day was fine, but a fresh south-east wind had raised a considerable sea outside; this caused a higher swell than usual to run into South-West Bay, so that the surf on the beach was more dangerous than it had been on the previous day."

After breakfast I rowed off with the mate and Panissa in the boat, with the intention of again attempting to effect a landing. I made for a spot that I had observed on the previous day, and which seemed to me then to be the best, if not the only locality adapted for a boat landing-place, as it was a promontory of coral formation, that ran out into the sea some fifteen yards or more beyond the breakers. It was situated in South-West Bay, a short distance to the northward of the cascade. It was, indeed, a natural pier, for its sides ran perpendicularly down into deep water, and its summit was but six feet or so above the level of the sea. We got alongside of this, and the swell that passed over us was so regular, though high, that it would have been easy to have approached close to, and when the

boat was on the top of a wave, and so almost on a level with the summit of this coral jetty, for me to have leapt on shore without any danger, for the rough coral was not slippery.

But the mate was a timid boatman, and Panissa a more timid one; so after several attempts, I had to abandon this method of landing; for as soon as a wave approached, these fellows would get frightened, and push off so far from the rock that leaping on it was quite out of the question.

I made them row along the coast far to the northward, and I observed that this portion of the island was far the most precipitous and inhospitable. At last we came to a cove, on to whose beach the sea broke dangerously at long intervals only; for two precipitous capes that bounded it sheltered it considerably. We observed also that in one portion of the cove there were no sharp rocks to oppose our landing, the shore just there, which seemed to be of coral formation, was flat, and terminated seawards in a steep step. Here landing seemed to be feasible. Our method was as follows: We dropped our anchor some fifteen yards from the beach; and then, choosing our opportunity, slackened cable and backed stern on towards the shore. I stood up in the stern, ready to leap on to the beach as soon as the boat was near enough, leaving it to the mate to watch the sea, and choose a proper time between the breakers. As soon as I leapt on to the land he was to haul out again; my provisions and rifle were to be passed to me by a line. So it was arranged; but this is what occurred. I was standing up in the stern in readiness, with my face turned to the beach, when I heard a cry, and the next moment felt a mass of water strike me on the back, nearly pushing me overboard.

The clumsy mate had allowed a sea to break over our bows. It nearly filled our boat up; she quivered, uncertain whether to turn turtle or not. The mate seemed to be paralyzed by the accident, and not till I poked an oar into his stomach, to wake him up, had he sense to obey my orders and haul away at the line, so as to get beyond the limit of the breakers before the next was on us. By balancing the boat carefully we managed to keep her upright, and set to work to bale out as rapidly as possible. It was a neat shave, and a nice mess we should have been in had we lost our boat, for she certainly would have been stove in had she been rolled over on the hard rocks by the powerful waves. It would not have been very prudent to have swum back to the *Falcon* through a sea swarming with sharks, and I had left no one on board who would have been capable of navigating her to the Brazilian coast, to purchase a boat with which to take us off. I saw I had committed a very imprudent act, so determined when I next attempted a landing, to leave the mate on board the yacht, with definite instructions as to what to do in case of an accident occurring to the party on shore.

We returned on board in time for dinner; the mate and Panissa were more than discouraged by their morning's adventure. They suggested that we had better sail at once for Bahia, that landing on Trinidad was impossible, the attempting it a serious risk to life; besides, they urged, "we have been close to it, it is all a heap of stones; if we did land we should discover nothing worth the discovering." These arguments were just, but I did not like being beaten by Trinidad, and after sailing all this way I thought that we had hardly tried enough yet, and should not give in.

The cook was strongly of my opinion, and volunteered to accompany me on a voyage of discovery after dinner.

So we got under way once more at three p. m., taking with us a rifle, a bottle of rum, some biscuit, a tin of sardines, some tobacco, and of course fishing-lines. I arranged a series of signals by means of which I could communicate from the shore to the mate in case we lost the boat, one signal being an order to bring the yacht nearer to the shore, so that we could swim out to her; another, an order to sail to Bahia, purchase a boat, and return for us, this latter being in view of our finding abundant food on the island and finking the sharks.

This afternoon I examined the coast much more closely than I had done before, and knew that if landing was feasible, land we now should; for my companion was a thoroughly good boatman, and quite fearless, to boot. Paulo Carlo was ever ready for any wild adventure, and was a great contrast to the timid mate and cowardly Panissa.

Just to the northward of the Monument there is a promontory of precipitous rock honeycombed and full of birds, on to which the sea breaks with fury. On the other side of this cape, and sheltered by it, is a bay hemmed in by barren mountains, steep, and seemingly inaccessible from the sea. There was little surf here, so we determined to land. To beach the boat we saw would be impossible, for the shore was encumbered with huge boulders of rock fallen from above. So we dropped our anchor far outside the breakers in about twenty feet of water, jumped overboard there were no sharks so near the breakers—and swam to the shore.

We soon found ourselves standing on dry land once again, and rejoiced exceedingly. The next question was to get our stores on shore also. Now as the breakers were

higher than they seemed to be from the boat, and the back undertow difficult to contend against, even for a strong swimmer, we simplified matters by carrying a line from the stern of the boat to the shore; we hauled it taut and made it fast to an elevated rock. We found it quite easy to travel along this, hand over hand, through the water, with our baggage tied on to our heads. In two journeys we had brought all on shore. We put our property under a hollow rock, took a tot of rum each to counteract the dampness of our garments, lit our pipes, and proceeded to look around us. We wished to discover if it were possible to reach the rest of the island from this barren bay; if it were so, I decided to return on board, and get some of the crew to land us here again on the morrow; then they could take the boat away until our exploration was complete and we signalled for them to return to bring us off. We of course dared not leave the boat at anchor in this exposed spot for any time, for a westerly wind might spring up and bring a furious sea into the bay at very short notice.

The coast upon which we had landed was certainly an uninviting one. We could find no issue of water anywhere. The two precipitous capes that shut in the bay to the north and south put insurmountable obstacles to our progress in those directions, so we proceeded to scale the mountains to the back, to see if we could find an exit to a more fertile region.

In four different places in succession we attacked the mountains, and four times were defeated, but not till we had attained a considerable elevation on each occasion.

The lower slopes were formed of *dolomite*, loose stones of every size, that the slightest touch dislodged, so even this portion of the ascent was not unattended with danger. Above these steep inclines of rolling stones of an almost precipitous wall, hundreds of feet in height, of basaltic formation, rising in shattered regular-shaped columns similar to those of the Giant's Causeway. So many were the inequalities of surface offered to the climber's foot, that to ascend this would not have seemed an alarming feat to any one with a good head, were he sure of his foothold.

But we soon found the mountain to be literally rotten. The columns were broken through at short intervals, and crumbled away when one grasped them. There was not one stone that was not loose and ready to topple down.

Thus, after struggling up to a much greater height than prudence should have sanctioned, for we had some narrow shaves, we were compelled to give in, weary and disappointed, and confess that we had landed in vain, having fallen on a cove from which there was no escape in any direction, surrounded by impassable cliffs. As we discovered afterwards, this savage spot afforded a good specimen of the nature of the island. Utterly barren mountains rose from a coral beach, and the mountains were rotten—and the whole island is so—burnt and shaken to pieces by the fires and earthquakes of volcanic action.

What struck us as remarkable was, that though in this cove there was no live vegetation of any kind, there were traces of an abundant extinct vegetation. The mountain slopes were thickly covered with dead wood, wood, too, that had evidently long since been dead; some of these leafless trunks we reprobated, some still stood up as they had grown; many had evidently been trees of considerable size, bigger round than a man's body. They were rotten, brittle, and dry, and made glorious fuel. This wood was close grained, of a red color, and much twisted. When we afterwards discovered that over the whole of this extensive island, from the beach up to the summit of the highest mountain—at the bottom and on the slopes of every stone—these dead trees were strewn as closely as is possible for trees to grow; and when we further perceived that they all seemed to have died at one and the same time, as if plague-struck, and that no one single live specimen young or old was to be found anywhere,—our amazement was increased.

At one time Trinidad must have been one magnificent forest, presenting to passing vessels a far different appearance to that it now does with its inhospitable and barren crags.

The descriptions given to the Directory allude to these forests; therefore, whatever catastrophe it may have been that killed off all the vegetation of the island, it must have occurred within the memory of man. Looking at the rotten, broken-up condition of the rock, and the nature of the soil, where there is a soil—a loose powder, not consolidated like earth, but having the appearance of fallen volcanic ash—I could not help imagining that some great eruption had brought about all this desolation; Trinidad is the acknowledged centre of a small volcanic patch that lies in this portion of the South Atlantic, therefore I think this theory a more probable one than that of a long drought, a not very likely contingency in this rather rainy region.

As we could find no fresh water in our cove we saw that there was nothing left for us but to pack up our stores once more, swim off to our boat, and row back to the yacht. We felt very disinclined to undergo the exertion of all this. It was now dusk, and we had been toiling hard, rowing or

climbing, all day under a fiery tropical sun, so we were pretty well fagged out, and several duckings in our clothes, too, had assisted not a little to the exhaustion of our energies.

We should have preferred camping out where we were for the night, but without water this was impossible, for we were even now parched with thirst.

I had already packed up my bundle and was preparing to wade out into the breakers with no pleasant sensation, when a joyful cry burst from the cook, who was prowling about the shore in an inquisitive fashion.

"Aguá! señor! aquí hay agua!"

I dropped my bundle and hurried up to him; he pointed to where, drop by drop, a crystal fluid was oozing from an overhanging rock, to be absorbed by the dry volcanic *dolomite* beneath. It was but little, but it was enough, and a quart bottle which he had brought with us filled, on being held under the tiny issue, in about five minutes, with as cool pure water as any one could desire.

I tasted it, and then said, "Paulo, we will sleep here to-night."

"It is good, señor," he replied eagerly, for he was as tired as I was, and hence fanned the plunge into the strong breakers as much as I did myself.

We now proceeded to make ourselves comfortable for the night. The overhanging rock under which we had placed our guns and stores on landing afforded us excellent shelter from a drizzling rain which had set in. We collected a large quantity of the dead wood, and soon had a glorious fire blazing at the mouth of our cavern, which quickly dried our sea-drenched garments.

Our dinner was a luxurious one, for we had an abundance of biscuit, a box of sardines, and a bottle of rum; besides these we had a few bright speckled sea-snakes we had found among the rocks, and some fine crabs, which when roasted we pronounced to be excellent. We both felt thoroughly comfortable and contented as we snuggled our pipes by the loud-crackling fire after the completion of our meal.

We were far from being in sole possession of this little cove; bare of vegetation though it was, it swarmed with life. The hideous yellow land-crabs were very numerous, and attracted by the unwonted light, marched into our fire all night long, to be roasted in hercatombs. But more numerous than even these were the birds; there are several species of sea-fowl on Trinidad, but this cove was peopled only by a pretty sort of small gull like our kittiwakes.

It was now the breeding-season. On every stone and stump of wood the female birds were sitting on their eggs; our presence in no way alarmed them, they permitted us to stroke them, and seemed rather to like our kind attentions. The overhanging rock under which we slept, though not of larger size than is, say, a brewer's dray, must alone have been occupied by one hundred of these gulls, so prodigiously crowded with bird-life is this lonely island.

Every crevice in the rock had an egg or freshly-hatched chicken in it. One mother had a fluffy baby on a ledge within arm's reach of where I sat by the fire. One when the mother was away I presented this baby with some roasted crab, which the dissipated little creature snipped off eagerly. The mamma returned before it had finished the delicacy, and snatched the wholesome morsel from its offspring, following up with a shrill and voluble sermon as to the peril of allowing strange beasts to stand on our beds.

We slept soundly on our beds of stone and coral, though we were frequently disturbed by the claws of the inquisitive land-crabs that crawled over us in a most irritating manner throughout the night.

At midnight I was awakened by the much increased roaring of the waves on the beach; a high sea was evidently running, and the spray of it occasionally dashed into our cavern. So I turned out to have a look at the weather; I was far from reassured by what I saw. The rain was still falling, the clouds above were of a very stormy appearance, and were travelling in a southerly direction at a rate that betokened a stiff breeze. Even on this, the lee-side of the island, the sea had felt the influence of the wind, as its loud roar clearly proved. I knew that as the sea rose it would break further out, in which case our boat anchored where it was would almost certainly be swamped by the rollers or dashed to pieces on the rocks. The night being dark, I was unable to distinguish it and relieve my anxiety.

To lose our boat and be left on this desert gulf, unable to cross the imprisoning mountains to a point opposite to the *Falcon*, whence we might make signals of distress to her, was no pleasant prospect; it would be quite a question whether, even if the mate sailed round the island in search of us, he would be able to distinguish ourselves or our signals from the distance at which he would be bound to keep the vessel; besides, there was no spare boat on board wherewith to fetch us off if discovered; the "collapsible" had long since been worn out and thrown away. To stay here for a month or so, living on gulls and crabs, was, for me and the cook, I saw, a now not improbable adventure.

However, anything was better than trying to get off to the boat in the dark, tired as we were; so as nothing could be done

till dawn, I piled up some more trees on the fire, lit a pipe, and smoked till I fell asleep again, which was not long.

We were awake at daylight the next morning. "Keenung-fu"—"It's very ugly!"—was the cook's remark, after silently inspecting the ocean that lay before us for a few minutes. Ugly it was, but not so ugly as it might have been, for our boat was still riding safely beyond the breakers, though hidden from us at intervals as it fell into the hollows of the high swell. To reach her, however, bidden as we should be, would be a formidable undertaking. On the sharp slippery coral rocks, offering insecure foothold at the best of times, the surf was dashing furiously. The rock, too, to which we had fixed the stern-line from the boat was now no longer out of reach of the waves, for the tide had risen considerably, so we had not the support of the rope to rely on just where we most needed it, that is in the shallow water among the breakers.

The weather looked very dirty, so we saw that we ought to hurry back to the *Falcon* without delay. But first we roasted some crabs, and off these, with rum and pipes, breakfasted—a very necessary preliminary, for we had had dangerous work before us; besides which we were fagged, chilly, and aching in our limbs, the result of yesterday's adventures. Having lashed some of the stores on my back, including a bottle of rum, a hatchet, and my rifle, I proceeded to make for the exit of the rope. As I was to make for a thick pilot suit and heavy sea-boots, I found myself to be a very unyielding mass to guide when I got into the troubled water. I had to watch my time, and hold for life on the sharp coral as a wave approached, allowing it to go over me, a process attended with no few cuts and bruises. Half-drowned, and considerably knocked about, I at last managed to reach the rope, and proceeded to haul myself along it, hand over hand, towards the boat. Breathing between the passing waves I got on very well for a few yards, then the water deepened suddenly. I was out of my depth, and I found that my impedimenta were so heavy that it was quite impossible for me to keep my head above water, and the rope was so slack that my weight at once dragged it under.

I shall never forget that journey, and do not wish ever to repeat it. I was travelling under water. It was a race for life. I hauled myself along the rope as fast as my hands would move, with the urgency of a drowning man. I felt as if I must have gone over a mile, and yet no boat; and, indeed, the distance was a very long one for a journey of this description. So long was I under water, that the cook, looking on from the shore, thought I had been drowned.

But at last I felt the line tighten, my head rose above the water, and there was the boat just in front of me. Purple of visage, and gasping, I hauled up the stern for a minute, they crawled on board, without more ado lay down until the results of the semi-asphyxiation had passed, when a tot of rum from the bottle set me right again.

It was now the cook's turn. Not profiting by my example, he, too, overlanded himself. He passed through the same period of torture, and, after dragging his weary limbs into the boat, vomited a gallon or so of Atlantic Ocean that he had swallowed on his way.

After half an hour's rest he recommenced work. There were still a few things on the shore, so, stripping all my clothes off, I jumped into the water, and returned to the beach. Collecting what there was, I hauled myself back again along the line, this time with my head above water, for I carried but a slight burden. Then the cook in his turn had his second ducking, for the line had to be hauled off from the rock.

On his return we proceeded to weigh the anchor. Alas! our troubles were not over yet, for strive our utmost it would not come up, having evidently got foul of some rock at the bottom. After dragging our boat's stern down to the water's edge in our endeavors, we had to give it up, cut our cable as low down as we could, and leave our keel behind us. We soon reached the yacht, running under our lateen sail before the strong wind. Those on board were much pleased at seeing us again, for they had been rather anxious for our safety.

(To be continued in our next.)

THE *Peruvian Mail* reproduces the following extract from an article published in the *Opinion Nacional* of June 19th, which shows that some Peruvians are beginning to understand the situation in that unhappy country. In advocating a better industrial, commercial and financial system, the writer says:—

"We have enjoyed political independence for over half a century, and we cannot cite a single case of an industry flourishing on account of administrative policy; on the contrary, no sooner has one of these succeeded in going ahead—than the government has somehow or other, either against it and crushed it in the end. We have a wretched administrative service, a defective monetary system, a worse system of taxation, a customs tariff full of absurd anomalies, and there is scarcely a stone in the social edifice which is not suffering from decay. How on earth are we to get ahead under such circumstances? The result of all this is clear as daylight. Peru is today simply a heap of ruins; and yet we must not, and need not despair. These lines written perhaps with excessive severity, may possibly find an echo, as Peru is endowed with more than ordinary resources."

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Our municipal legislators are again busily at work on a project designed to regulate the incomes and outgoings of domestic servants. It is but few years ago, in the time of the monarchy, when a similar scheme was under consideration and came very near becoming law. There would have been less inconsistency then in subjecting servants and housekeepers to so rigid and vexatious an inspection, for we are accustomed to associate such an interference in private affairs with an arbitrary form of government. But for a republic to enter upon minute and vexatious interferences in private affairs, is certainly inconsistent with the fundamental principles of such a form of government. Liberty is generally considered to be the corner-stone of a republic, and yet we find it seriously advocated by men claiming to be republicans that no one should be permitted to seek employment as a domestic servant without registering at the police and reporting there on every change, and that both master and servant shall be fined for an engagement outside of these rules. And we also hear it advocated, in all seriousness, that the police should be permitted to make domiciliary visits to determine whether this vexatious ordinance has been observed. This may be liberty according to the Latin ideal, but it certainly is not the liberty which the Anglo-Saxon considers his birth-right, in England as well as in the United States. There every man's house is his castle, and it would arouse a revolution were the police to force their way into it to investigate the status of his servants. Then, again, it is commonly considered that equality is another corner-stone of the republican system. But what equality is there, either for master or servant, in an ordinance which places domestic service under special and vexatious regulations which are unknown to other occupations. A man may employ as many servants, clerks and operatives as he pleases in his office, his warehouse and his factory, and no one interferes, but when he wants a cook, or a waiter, or a nursery-maid, he can do it only through the interposition of the police. And as for the unfortunate servant, he finds that while his neighbors are employed in business houses, in factories, on public works, on plantations and on shipboard without vexatious restrictions, he must register at the police station, carry a pass-book, report himself at intervals or on change of employment, and have all the particulars of his engagements entered both at the station and in his pass-book. This may be very satisfactory to the ex-slaveholder, who is not accustomed to consult the feelings of his menials, but it will hardly suit the temper of the honest servant. It degrades him in comparison with the plantation laborer and the factory operative, and it creates an unjust discrimination against him by the law. All citizens should be equal before the law, but how can they be so where some men are free to sell their services at pleasure, while others of the same class and condition can do so only with the consent of the police? Clearly such an ordinance would not only be vexatious and burdensome, but it will outrage every principle of republicanism and every feeling of independence. It is desirable, we admit, to have something done to secure trustworthiness and permanence in domestic service, but this could better be done by promptly punishing the unfaithful, and requiring notice to be given

either of dismissal or withdrawal, either party forfeiting the wages for said period in case of default. The proposed ordinance will never cure the evils of which housekeepers complain; on the contrary, it will serve to aggravate them, for it will drive thousands away from a service where they are kept so closely under vexatious police supervision. And then, think of the delays, and the blackmail, and the corruption which must result from this dependence upon police registry and inspection! It is a mystery how any man can advocate such a scheme!

The Central railway is by far the most important public enterprise in Brazil. It represents an enormous investment of capital, and it employs a small army of officials and laborers. More than this, it serves an enormous area of country, the inhabitants of which depend upon this railway for nearly everything required for their consumption and for the transportation to market of their productions. At a rough estimate, one-fourth of the population of Brazil is more or less dependent upon this railway. All things considered, we know of no other district and population of equal size and number so wholly dependent upon one railway line, as is the case with the district served by the Central. To suspend traffic on this line for a week means hunger and distress for thousands; for it is a strange fact that the agricultural districts of Brazil do not produce more than a small part of their own food. Continue this suspended traffic over a longer period, and we find the people suspending their purchases of clothing, for the enhanced costs of foodstuffs absorb all their earnings. Many a time within the past two years, since traffic on this road has become so irregular and retarded, have we heard of distress and famine in the towns through which it runs. Unfortunately for themselves, the people of Minas Geraes and of a considerable part of Rio de Janeiro have become so dependent upon the Central railway that their very existence is bound up in its operation. It will be seen, therefore, that the management of this road has become a very serious responsibility for the state, for it involves the prosperity of an important part of the country as well as an income from the capital invested. The government may for a time surrender its income in order to improve the property, but it can not as easily sacrifice the prosperity of the districts in question. In this sense, if in no other, the government can not afford to defer the thorough reorganization which this great line requires. The destruction of life and property through the negligence or criminality of employees, the criminal violations of property, and the cynical treatment of those who travel or ship goods over the road—all these should end. It can not be doubted that the employees of the road are wilfully destroying enough property every year to make a welcome surplus for the state, but were the treasury to pay for the losses suffered by private parties through the culpable negligence of these same employees, it is equally beyond doubt that the Central railway would yield a very handsome deficit every year. Beyond this we must consider the heavy indirect losses which the people of country are suffering on account of the bad management of this road. For the past two years food and clothing have been excessively dear simply because of these traffic interruptions. While rice was worth only 125000 a bag here in Rio de Janeiro, with an excessive stock on hand and consequent losses for the importers, at Juiz de Fora, about seven hours distant, it was selling for 405000 a bag. This was due not to the freight charged, which is only 200 reis a bag, but because of the long intervals between the days on which shipments could be made to that place. When such a day was announced there was a frightful rush of carts, two days not infrequently were spent waiting to discharge, and as a consequence the cartmen collected fabulous rates, frequently from 1405 to 1605 for a single cartload. It thus happened that the cartage on a bag of rice was \$4000 to \$5000, while the freight was only 200 reis. The limited quantity shipped of coarse gave the fortunate merchant up country his opportunity, and he has not failed to ask 355 and 405 for an article costing him less than 185. This is merely an example of what has occurred in scores of places and with scores of articles required for the daily necessities of the people. That they have suffered repeated privations and have paid famine

prices for the food and clothing they could not go without, is wholly due to the shameful mismanagement of this great railway. And that they have submitted to all this for two mortal years, and have not risen against the speculators and parasites and agitators who have brought these evils upon them, is eloquent witness of their pacific character.

THE TRINIDAD QUESTION.

—Last December, as daily recorded in our columns at the time, H. M. S. *Rattlesnake* raised the British flag on the desert and abandoned island of "Trinidad" in the Atlantic ocean, about 500 miles west (?) of Bahia. The Brazilian authorities, it would appear, have just become aware of the fact, and now propose sending a war-vessel there to haul down the union jack and put the Brazilian green and yellow in its place. This has caused some surprise in England, for Brazil had never made a formal claim to the island, and has now to imagine any serious contest will ensue. The island, about the size of the Isle of Wight, is hardly worth quarrelling over. —*Montevideo Times*, July 23.

—With regard to the occupation by a British man-of-war of the island of Trinidad, supposed to belong to Brazil, the probabilities are that some British sailors have landed for practice only, unless the place is either uninhabited or Brazil possesses no authorities whatever in the place. In that case, it will doubtless be contended that peaceful possession is a fine point of the law. Under any circumstances it would be a boon to humanity if England took possession of it and made something out of a bare rock in the Atlantic, and for this the Brazilians ought to be truly thankful. —*Times*, Buenos Aires, July 20.

—In referring to *The Cyclopaedia of Names* by Benjamin E. Smith A. M., for 1895, we find that the island of Trinidad, which the Brazilians are now trying to assert as a Brazilian possession, is already there described as a small island in the south Atlantic, belonging to Great Britain. —*Times*, Buenos Aires, July 21.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—The returns received at government house with regard to the number of national guards formed on the 9th of July, give a total of 65,066 men. The returns are not however complete, inasmuch as no data had been received from the provinces of Rioja, Santiago, Jujuy and Tucuman, nor from the camp districts of Buenos Aires, Entre Rios, Corrientes, Salta, San Luis, and Catamarca. The returns from the national territories are also wanting. The grand total will probably reach 75,000, a good and meritorious display for such a young country and which will have to be taken into serious consideration in future international contingencies. —*Times*, Buenos Aires.

—There is a muttering of war in Uruguay, where it apparently suits the authorities, in the absence of any real grounds for alarm, to assume the quarantine business is very dull just now, and that Uruguayan officials must live somehow. Moreover, President Bordaberry's sent is not too secure, and some of the armament he is anxious to acquire may come in handy should an attempt be made, which is by no means unlikely to dispossess him. Even if these attempts should prove successful, that was inevitable. The thought that he will not retire into abject poverty. His honest earnings during his brief tenure of power must have amounted to a fair sum, which speaks volumes for the energy with which he has worked and exploited so limited a field. —*Review*, Buenos Aires, July 26th.

—The immigration returns continue to be of a peculiarly unconsoling nature, especially in a year when a large amount of work exists which can only be done by hand. The stream of population with a criminal, salaried, and would flow backward, were it not for the Jewish immigration, the ultimate results of which are seriously occupying the attention of the head of the immigration department. For this experiment is likely to provide us with a new social problem. Many of our politicians are concerned because the Italian and other immigrants do not readily assimilate with the Argentine population, but remain alien in habits and sympathies. And all this is true of the Jewish immigrants, more than of any others, nor is it easy to see, if allowance be made for differences of training and faith, how it could be otherwise. Yet no statesman worthy of the name could view it otherwise than with alarm the rise of an *imperium in imperio*, of a commonwealth existing in, and yet quite separated from the commonwealth of the nation. —*Review*, Buenos Aires.

—Our Argentine contemporaries are constantly preaching the necessity of saving and attracting foreign capital into this republic, and at the same time our legislators persist in placing obstacles in the way of any and all foreign enterprise. As a case in point we may cite that of Messrs. Evans and Livock who proposed to form a company for the construction of railway rolling stock in Argentina, which would bring some hundred or hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling into the country and give employment to a large number of operatives. As the railway companies, however, are allowed to import their rolling stock free of duty, Messrs. Evans and Livock petitioned Congress to be allowed likewise to import free those materials which can not be obtained within the country and which were referred to committee, these legislative wisacres advised Congress to grant the petition for ten years only after which the national rolling stock construction company will have to pay duty upon its materials and thus be utterly unable to compete with the foreign manufacturer whose rolling stock can always be imported free of duty by the railway companies. This idiotic legislation is being urged by Messrs. Evans and Livock's scheme in the hall, and our legislators may pride themselves of having once again thwarted the grain and driven capital away from our shores. —*Review*, Buenos Aires, July 6.

WEST COAST ITEMS.

—Santiago telegrams report that the dispute between Bolivia and Peru has been arranged to the satisfaction of both parties.

—The cabinet crisis in Chili was settled last week, an organization by Manuel Recabarren being effected among radicals and liberals.

—The *Chilian Times* notes an unusual number of assassinations and robberies in Chili. The bandits have even had the audacity to enter the suburbs of Valparaiso and rob unsuspecting pedestrians. Murders are of daily occurrence, often accompanied with shocking cruelties.

—It is satisfactory to learn that it is the general opinion in Peru that the Bolivian ultimatum will not bring about a war between those two republics. Perhaps that war depends more on Chilean manipulation than anything else, and if Chile can weaken both sides by causing a rupture between them, she will doubtless do so, thus facilitating the final incorporation of the Pacific coast of South America to Chile, a measure which will doubtless spread civilization and advancement where semi-barbarity and administrative corruption now reign supreme. The national guards of northern Chile are to be organized at once, a very suggestive step under present diplomatic difficulties between Peru and Bolivia. —*Times*, Buenos Aires, July 20.

—The *Esmeralda* of Coronel reports the arrival at that place of a countryman of Selkirk, named Johnson, after a series of remarkable adventures. Johnson belonged to the *Chilian bark, Lota*, which was lost on September 19, 1888, off Palmer island, while on a voyage from Australia to Chili with coal, and he and a *Chilian boy*, named Ramon Rojas, a native of Valdivia, aged 15 years, were the only persons who escaped drowning. They reached the island, which is uninhabited, on a spar. They built a hut, and they subsisted on coconuts, eggs and oranges. At the end of two years Rojas was attacked with dysentery and died. At the end of three years a German vessel came in sight of the island, and Johnson's signals being observed he was taken off and conveyed to Hamburg. Here his necessities were attended to by the *Chilian consul*, and finally he shipped in an English vessel for Callao, where he deserted, and made the best of his way to Coronel where his wife and a child reside. —*Chilian Times*, July 10th.

—As we write there are rumors of ministerial difficulties, which would not be in the least surprising, for a period of political evolution has been reached. The question which is coming to the front is, who is to be the next President of the republic? There are, as usual, several aspirants for the position, and as a natural consequence a large amount of political intriguing is going on. Several political *razonamientos* of a private nature have taken place, and are, of course, probable and improbable, are talked of. Still, the hour is rapidly approaching when something of a definite nature will be agreed upon, and this circumstance is quite sufficient to create a suspicion of instability in the ministry, whose term of office will depend, under any circumstances, on the political evolution now in progress. It is but fair to add, however, that the actual cabinet, when they leave office, will leave an excellent record behind them. They have pulled well together, and have done a large amount of very good work without noise or display of any kind. —*Chilian Times*, July 6th.

—The collapse—or next thing to it—of the Anglo-Chilian tribunal of arbitration has created no little surprise, and is the subject of severe comment in public. In the first place, the Belgian arbitrator went on a colonization rampart to the straits of Magellan and then clamped out for his native land, and nothing has been seen or heard of him since. Then, unfortunately, the British arbitrator, Mr. Joel, was taken ill, and was incapacitated for a while, and shortly after resuming his labors he was the victim of a serious accident which precluded, for some time, his attendance at the tribunal, and now he has resigned, and left for England on the 22nd inst. And now, to cap all, the *Chilian arbitrator* has cleared out for Iquique, where he has gone to defend Mr. Chace in his law suit with Mr. Mackenna. So that if the newly appointed British arbitrator should arrive during the *Chilian arbitrator's* absence things will remain pretty much as they are now. It is rumored that a representation on the unsatisfactory state of affairs will be made to the British government. —*Chilian Times*, July 6th.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

JULY 26.—Senate.—Senator Gomes de Castro said that in Brazil there could not be more than one opinion on the Trinidad question and it would be really lamentable, he added, if the republic itself which it had received from the monarchy. Senator Olíveira offered the following motion, which was unanimously voted by the 51 senators: "The Senate of the republic, certain of the right of Brazil to the island of Trinidad and dominated by the feeling of respect for the integrity of the territory of the country and for national sovereignty, executes in regard to the occupation of that island and asserts its solidarity with the purpose of aiding the government in this patriotic endeavor, with the means within its reach for preserving this part of national territory." Senator Severina Vieira said that the aggression received from the French government in the Anapa question was no less criminal and unjust than that of England in the question of Trinidad. He accused the French government of unworthy complicity in the cowardly murder of Brazilian women and children. That government, he said, while pretending to care of what had occurred, has decried the officers who took part in the glorious deed. The bill regulating the promotion of the 2nd lieutenant and ensigns of November 3 was voted in 1st discussion. The deficiency appropriation of 4,516,328\$80 passed in 2nd discussion, as did also the bill reducing in two months the period fixed in the law of January 26, 1892, for the ineligibility of presidents, governors, vice-presidents and lieut. governors of states. —*Chamber of Deputies*.—Deputy Thomaz Cavalcanti said that the policy of the minister of marine is opposed to

that of the President of the republic. Deputy Bueno de Andrade asked for the postponement of the vote on the motion for the appointment of a committee of five to prepare a bill for the reorganization of the national guard. Deputy José Carlos opposed the motion and was informed by the speaker that motions for postponement are not subject to debate. The deputy, however, continued his speech and the chair repeated the remark. Deputy José Carlos:—"Let me finish my speech and then call me to order, as you did with the S. Paulo deputy." The motion for the appointment of the committee was adopted. Deputy Benedito Leite introduced a bill authorizing the appropriation of 150,000,000 per annum for employing shorthand writers at the Supreme Court and for publishing debates, records and decisions of that court.

JULY 27.—Senate.—The Senate voted in 3rd discussion a deficiency appropriation of 600,000 for public relief. On motion of Senator Gonçalves Chaves the bill on duplicate governors and legislatures was recommitted. **Chamber of Deputies.**—The Chamber voted the following special and deficiency appropriations:—"18,000 for the police force (in 3rd discussion); 44,826,843 for the maritime sanitary service (in 2nd discussion); 257,152,818 for the marine hospital (in 2nd discussion); 395,466,880 for the canalization service in Rio Grande do Sul (final discussion). Deputy Augusto Severo defended the minister of marine. Deputy Thomas Cavalcanti repeated his charges against that minister and moved to recommit the budget of his department. Deputy Paulino Junior defended the law schools bill. Deputy Coelho Lisboa spoke on affairs in the state of Paratyba and defended the governor, who, he said, is one of Benjamin Constant's most distinguished pupils. He had, however, incurred the ill-will of the ultra-postivists by not opposing Col. Valladao's idea of changing the flag of the country. Deputy Bueno de Andrade introduced a bill confirming the appointments of warrant ensigns and 2nd lieutenants made up to November 3, 1894.

JULY 29.—Senate.—Senator João Barbalho introduced a bill for regulating the means for obtaining relief for grievances caused by acts of municipal authorities in the federal district. Senator Severino Vieira introduced a bill fixing the pay of retired judges. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputy José Carlos attacked and Deputy Augusto Severo defended the minister of marine. Deputy Paulino Junior spoke in favor of the law school bill. Deputy Ovidio Alarães moved to inquire whether certain officers of the army receive from the treasury an allowance of 100,000 per month for the payment of house rent. Deputy Neiva spoke in favor of increasing the pay of certain public employees.

JULY 30.—Senate.—Senator Coelho Rodrigues said that, without wishing to defend the conduct of England in the Trinidad question, he must be allowed to remark that there are other powerful nations that are not less rapacious and insatiable. It is even whispered, he added, that in occupying the island England had merely lured by 48 hours another friendly nation which had prepared to seize the prize. To defend its territory Brazil requires in the first place a good navy and in the next place citizens trained like those of little Switzerland, which, without a standing army and with a population of only 2,000,000 can within 15 days put 200,000 men in the field. He moved to inquire how many Brazilians had been killed by the French in Amapa, how many had been captured and whether the prisoners have since been released. Senator Gomes de Castro opposed the motion, whose adoption, he feared, would embarrass the diplomatic action of the government. The motion was rejected. Senator Gomes de Castro opposed that bill relating to three months the period for which the heads of state governments and their immediate substitutes are ineligible to a seat in congress. Although opposed to the principle of ineligibility, he thinks that, since it has been adopted, it should not be practically annulled by fixing an inadequate period for the duration of its effects. Senator Campos Salles defended the bill, which, in his opinion, will, it voted, open the doors of congress to many competent men excluded by the present law. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputy Ovidio Alarães in discussing the estimates of the navy department denied that a naval officer has to undergo more hardships and should be better paid than an officer of the army. Deputy Victorino Monteiro moved to postpone the debate on the estimates for the department of foreign affairs. After remarks from Deputies Benedito Leite and Nilo Pecanha, he asked for leave to withdraw the motion, which, however, was renewed by Deputy Nilo Pecanha and put to the vote. In favor of the motion there were 31 votes and against it 64, and the chair declared that it had been lost for want of a quorum. Deputy Nilo Pecanha demanded that the roll should be called, but the chair refused against it. There ensued a squabble, which was terminated by the arrival of more deputies, the motion being put to the vote again and rejected by a vote of 84 to 40. On motion of Deputy Belisario de Souza the Chamber resolved to insert in the record of its proceedings an expression of profound sorrow for the death of Honorary Brigadier-General Francisco Rangel. Deputy Nilo Pecanha promised to speak on the estimates for the department of foreign affairs in 3rd discussion after the publication of the report of the diplomatic committee on the reorganization of the diplomatic service.

JULY 31.—Senate.—There was voted a motion, offered by Senator Quintino Bocayana, expressing profound sorrow for the death of Honorary Brigadier-General Fonseca Ramos. Senator Carlos Araújo spoke in favor of the eligibility bill and defended the governor of Pernambuco. Senators Gomes de Castro and Severino Vieira spoke against the bill, which was defended by Senator Campos Salles. The last of these speakers said that he does not think elections were freer in the time of the monarchy than they are now, believing, on the contrary, that, though they are still affected by the corrupting influence of the monarchy, they are constantly improving. The last monarchial cabinet had, he asserted, used much pressure at the elections. Alluding to the insinuation that the war with which he defends the bill is due to his desire to change places with the governor of

S. Paulo, he declared that the latter, whether the bill passed or not, will in due time have a seat in the Senate. Senator Quintino Bocayana spoke in favor of the bill and opposed the principle of ineligibility. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputy Thimoteo Cavalcanti defended the director of the post-office in Brazil and moved to ask for information in regard to the navy. Deputy Nilo Pecanha attacked the *Atos do Sul*, which he accused of receiving a subsidy from the Brazilian government; and at the same time displaying hostility towards Brazil in relation to the Amapa question. He also censured the French government, which he charged with rewarding the murderers of Brazilian women and children. Deputy Coelho Lisboa replied to Deputy José Mariano's strictures on the governor of Pernambuco. Deputy Molinas e Albuquerque spoke in favor of the foreign life insurance companies bill. He asserted that in three years the Epitafio had taken 900,000,000 out of the country. He mentioned cases in which beneficiaries had experienced much difficulty in collecting the insurance due them, and he being obliged to go to the United States for that purpose. He alluded to the reported intervention of the American minister in this question and said that he had no doubt that the Epitafio is now calculating the sum of money it must give to every deputy for his vote. Deputy Aristides de Oliveira opposed the bill, which, in his opinion, offers no redress for the grievances of beneficiaries. Deputy Augusto de Freitas defended the law schools bill.

Aug. 1.—Senate.—Barão do Lathario denied that the last cabinet of the monarchy had used pressure at the elections, and said that he would rejoice to see the day in which citizens are as free under the republic as they were in the time of the monarchy. Everybody knows, he said, how the first election under the republic was held. He appealed to the honor and the conscience of Senator Campos Salles to say whether the speaker had not been excluded from Congress after receiving at that election two-thirds of the votes cast in the federal district. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputy Olympio de Campos spoke on affairs in Sergipe and Deputy Erico Coelho opposed the bill on martial law. Deputy Serzedello analysed the rules and regulations of foreign life insurance companies. Deputy José Carlos:—"They are all thieves." The Chair: "Attention!" Deputy José Carlos: "They are thieves, Mr. President! They are thieves! They are thieves!" The Chair: "I call Deputy José Carlos to order!" Deputy Augusto de Freitas defended the law schools bill.

Aug. 2.—Senate.—Senator Rosa Junior severely censured the illegal retirement of public employees. This abuse, which he proved with official documents, disorganizes the public service, burdens the treasury and violates the constitution. He moved to send the documents to the committee on finances in order that proper steps may be taken for checking the abuse. Senator Oliveira suggested that they should be sent to the committee on justice, but the chair ruled in favor of sending them to that on finance. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputy Augusto Montenegro spoke in favor of the foreign life insurance companies bill. He said that in 12 years foreign life insurance companies have sent 215,000,000 out of the country. Deputy Dino Bardi opposed the bill, which he considers unconstitutional. By the constitution he said, foreigners are entitled to all the civil rights belonging to Brazilians. Deputy Erico Coelho spoke against the law schools bill. Deputy Neiva introduced a bill for the relief of Engenheiro Dionysio Martins, who, after 30 years' service, had lost his place by the abolition of the bureau of which he was in charge. The bill on martial law passed in 1st discussion by a vote of 110 to 6.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—In spite of official pressure the opposition carried the municipal elections at Fianca, S. Paulo.

—The German minister is in S. Paulo, where, it is said, he intends visiting some of the large plantations.

—Another municipal council has been deposed in Sergipe. The victim this time is the council of Santo Amaro.

—Dr. Paes de Carvalho has recently returned to Pará from Europe and is a candidate for the office of governor of that state.

—Col. Valladao, usurping governor of Sergipe, and Col. Olympio Ferraz, who assisted him to usurp the governorship, were indicted on the 30th ult. by the district court of that state.

—On the 31st inst. two dynamite bombs were thrown by unknown persons on the roof of the residence of Antonio Guerra Tavares, near Parnaiba. The explosion damaged the building, but no one was wounded.

—A telegram of the 1st inst. from Macalé accuses the police authorities at that place of arresting respectable persons without cause, of breaking into houses and of causing policemen to fire into a group of peaceful citizens.

—A São Paulo telegram of the 3rd says that the elections at various places in that state were attended with violent conflicts. At Bragança the police fired upon those who were coming into town, killing and wounding several persons.

—The municipal elections held on the 30th ult. throughout the state of S. Paulo resemble the majority of the recent elections in Brazil: the government used what it considered the requisite amount of pressure and consequently elected its candidates.

—The supposition that the police sent from São Paulo to Bragança were intended to interfere in the election proved to be correct. On election day this force aided by a body of roughs headed by the police delegate surrounded the town to hinder the entrance of opposition voters. It afterwards fired into a crowd, killing one man and wounding several.

—The solicitor of the republic in Pernambuco has forwarded to the solicitor in Alagoas the papers relating to the trial of José Matosinho, Amílcar Façola and others.

—Col. Valladao offers his services to the government for the defence of the island of Trindade. Why not make the colonel governor of the island and see whether the English have as much difficulty as the people of Sergipe in getting rid of him? As the district judge insists on imprisoning him for illegal seizure of the government of Sergipe, however, the prospect is just a little complicated.

—The *Journal do Commercio* is informed that the Italian government has prohibited the embarkation of emigrants for the state of Espírito Santo, in view of the reports made by the Italian legation here and the Italian consulate at Victoria. The government will also take severe measures against the emigration to other states in case regulations are not adopted and enforced for the better transportation and protection of emigrants.

—The sanitary returns for the month of June give the following results for the principal cities and towns in the state of São Paulo:

	births	marriages	deaths
São Paulo.....	582	110	442
Campos.....	51	23	192
Ribeirão Preto.....	106	45	170
Amara.....	207	81	126
Aracaju.....	120	23	66
Sorocaba.....	38	19	42
Pindamonhangaba.....	92	12	44
Rio Claro.....	76	23	28
Ita.....	39	7	23
Logy-minim.....	72	10	45
S. Carlos do Pinhal.....	157	30	85
Guaratininga.....	163	8	66
Limeira.....	65	20	39
Taubaté.....	103	18	75

RIO GRANDE DO SUL.

It is generally believed that the result of the cabinet meeting on the 30th ult. was unfavorable to pacification. It is even said that only two of the ministers are willing to grant terms that the revolutionists can accept.

Some of the papers, however, appear to take a hopeful view of the matter, and it is possible that something may have occurred since the cabinet meeting of the 30th ult. to change the state of the question. What is known is that on the 1st, Vice-President Manuel Victorino, who is said to be a warm advocate of peace, was closeted for a long time with the President and that on the following day he announced that Col. Wotff, who had asked to be relieved of the mission of conveying the government's instructions to Gen. Galvão, had been induced to withdraw his request.

The greater part of the regular troops in Rio Grande are said to be very tired of the war and anxious for it to end.

The number of regular troops in the state, according to the most recent official data, was, at the time of the organization of the *sedes*, 1,091 officers and 8,289 men, viz. 15 battalions of infantry, 538 officers and 5,016 men; 7 regiments of cavalry, 262 officers and 1,617 men; 2 regiments and one battalion of artillery, 132 officers and 939 men; 1 battalion of sappers and miners, 25 officers and 279 men; transportation corps, 26 officers and 166 men; military school, 108 officers and 254 men; total 1,091 officers and 8,289 men, not including the 16th battalion of infantry, which had not at that time arrived in Rio Grande.

Of irregular government troops there were at that time 42 commands of infantry, 707 officers and 7,363 men; 31 commands of cavalry, 572 officers and 5,559 men; 2 commands of artillery, 11 officers and 224 men; 59 staff officers; total, 1,349 officers and 13,146 men.

The regular and irregular force, then, formed an aggregate of 23,775 officers and men, of whom 2,440 were officers.

Since these data were organized some of the irregular troops have been disbanded by the present commander of the district.

A telegram of the 2nd inst. from Montevideo states that some days ago Col. Carlos Telles, commander of the 2nd division of government troops, breakfasted with Aparicio Saravia and that on the same day Aparicio told 40 other revolutionary officers dining with Telles. A Porto Alegre telegram, however, contradicts the statement.

Notwithstanding the amistice there have been several fights between Castilhistas and federalists in different parts of the state.

At Uruguaiana on the 24th ult. a mass which some of the ladies caused to be said for Admiral Salhaiba da Gama was interrupted by Castilhistas with music, fireworks and other noisy demonstrations. Occurrences like this show the intolerant spirit of the dominant party and give little hope of a lasting peace as long as that party is held in office by the general government against the will of the majority of the people of the state.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The first locomotive of the new branch of the Central to Itello Horizonte, arrived at that place on the 29th ult.

—For the seven months ending on July 31, 1895, there were shipped on the Central railway 277,329 tons of freight.

—In the month of July the receipts of the Central railway amounted to 3,037,628\$233 and the disbursements to 3,026,368\$556.

—The Botanical Garden tramway directors expect to inaugurate electrification on the Jaraguá section on November 15th next.

—A man was killed at the S. Francisco Xavier station of the Central railway on the morning of the 2nd inst. He was run over by a passenger train.

—A train was derailed at Aparecida, on the Central railway, on the morning of the 3rd, an oiler being injured. The director at once ordered the dismissal of the switchman and his arrest.

—There was another accident on the Central, at Cascatina, on the 30th, an engine driver neglecting to observe signals and colliding with another train. The two locomotives were badly damaged, and traffic was interrupted until 2 a.m. on the following day. At this rate the new locomotives recently acquired will be insufficient, and another purchase will have to be made.

—The inquiry into the collision at Queimados, Central railway, has resulted in a resolution, the *Journal* hears, to dismiss the telegraph operator on that section as the principal author, the suspension of the station master for 30 days, and suitable punishment for the driver of the train "M. 3" and the line master. It would be interesting to know how much the state loses by the accident.

—The gross receipts of the Central railway in 1894 were 25,043,081\$49 against 24,926,354\$245 in 1893. The expenditures in 1894 were 27,056,805\$934, amounting in 1893 to 24,012,114\$996. The trains carried 12,071,277 passengers and 745,999 tons of freight in 1894 against 11,496,576 passengers and 672,048 tons of freight in 1893. At the end of 1894 the length of the road in operation was 1,164 k. 229 m.

—While everywhere except the minister of industry complains of the cost of shipping merchandise on the Central railway, his excellency evidently thinks the public will cheerfully bear a few more burdens, for he has requested the order granting an attachment of 50% to Brazilian cereals and has generalized the labor fee, which was previously limited to a few articles. Perhaps he hopes to pay in this way for the property damaged by discontented Vespasianists.

LOCAL NOTES

—Prudente José de Moraes Barros Filho has matriculated at the free law school in this city.

—The hospital tax on shipping yielded 55,068.422 last month, which sum goes to the Misericórdia.

—According to the minister of industry the consumption of water in this city averaged last year 260 litres for each person.

—It is stated that the *partido republicano federal* (Glycerio's party) is going to establish a newspaper in this city. It needs one, surely!

—D. Myrthes Gomes de Campos is attending the free law school in this city. She is, we believe, the first lady to study law in Brazil.

—The *Journal do Commercio* of Sunday states that the government has yet no official advice of the detention of any Brazilian at C. J. de as a prisoner, as reported from Pará.

—A dinner in honor of Her Majesty's representative, E. C. H. Phillips, Esq., was given by the German minister at Petropolis on the 30th ult., at which all the foreign ministers were present.

—It is stated that some nights ago on Largo do Rocio a military driver, after enjoying a good sound sleep in his vehicle, was astonished on awakening to find that his horse had been stolen by a heartless thief.

—There is a report current that Floriano Peixoto promised Trinidad Island to the United States, but we are very much inclined to doubt it. The United States has no use for an island so difficult of access.

—At the annual conference in S. Paulo of the Methodist Episcopal church just closed, Rev. E. A. Tilly was assigned in the English congregation of this city. Mr. Tilly is so well known here that he needs no introduction.

—The irrepressible Capt. Gomes de Castro has again broken into prison. This time the captain was arrested at the instance of the director of the military school. His friends insist that he is being persecuted for being a postivist.

—We are glad to note that the *Journal do Brazil* discloses the headline of which we complained in our last issue. We were certain it was not the act of those who are responsible for the character of that paper, but must correct that they were of course responsible for it.

—Quick work. The bill creating a consulate at Cayenne was signed on the 27th ult., the consular was appointed on the same day and on the 29th the President, by executive decree, made a special appropriation of 7,000\$000 in gold for the payment of the respective expenses.

—Last Saturday on board the corvette *Trojanos* (now called the *Tuculeira*) there occurred an explosion of the boiler, which killed two firemen and wounded 13 other persons, three of whom have since died. The men had just thrown some buckets of water on a hot boiler.

—A telegram from Alagoas on the 31st inst. announces the arrival there of rifles, side-arms, ammunition and a machine gun—all for account of the state government. The question is asked if the governor can dispatch these at the custom-house without licence from the minister of finance.

—Among the passengers for Europe on the *Arlé* was Dr. Amílcar Façola, recently political editor of the *Cidade do Rio*. At Pernambuco he stated that he had been compelled to leave Rio because his life had been threatened by the Jacobins. It is a curious state of affairs surely where groups of men are permitted to threaten their opponents with assassination.

—The *Journal do Brazil* of the 3rd inst. says that the Italian government has declined to accede to the terms proposed by Minister Carlos de Carvalho for the settlement of the Italian claims against Brazil. The minister's proposal, it appears, involved a direct acknowledgment of the justice of those claims and reduced the amount of compensation to a sum which the Italian government regards as preposterously inadequate.

—The Montevideo papers state that Brazilian and Chilean squatters are expected to arrive there for the 25th of August festivities. They are better informed about the Brazilian squatter, it would seem, than we are here in Rio de Janeiro.

—Deputy José Carlos de Carvalho says the foreign insurance companies "are all thieves," and he surely ought to know! He is the director of the "ducas" where so much coffee is shipped and stolen, and where it is so difficult to catch a thief. It is surprising that the deputy has not started a life insurance company of his own!

—Deputy Medeiros e Albuquerque has recently gone so far as to insinuate that the Equitable is preparing to offer bribes for the defeat of the insurance companies bill now under discussion. This is of course a confession of the weakness of the cause advocated by this deputy. And it may be said that the men who indulge in such libellous insinuations are generally among the first to acknowledge the force of a pecuniary argument.

—Why is it not possible to inculcate a little discipline among those who throng the crowded streets of this city? It has become a source of constant vexation to pass through a crowded street, owing to the stalling, wayward and unsystematic movements of the people. If the newspapers would counsel the public to always turn to the right, or to the left, everyone would soon find it easier and more agreeable to pass through the streets.

—The army bill, which was signed by the President on the 30th ult., provides for the following number of enlisted men:—army, 28,160; military schools, 1,200; sergeant's school 200; total, 29,560. Add to these a few thousand officers, not forgetting the 1,500 and lieutenants and ensigns of November 3, and you have a military establishment that cannot fail to delight the souls of taxpayers and arouse in foreign capitalists the desire to lend money to Brazil.

—The third ball of the season will be given by the Lanchons Club on the 14th inst., and like its predecessors will attract a full attendance. While one hears nothing but what is complimentary, it may be presumed that there is nothing to criticize. Hence it must be considered certain that these balls come wholly within the expectations of everybody, consequently everybody goes and enjoys the music and dancing and talk. We are again under obligations for the courteous remembrance of the club.

—The papers of this city published last Thursday a telegram in which Mr. Bayard, the American minister to England, is represented as having expressed the belief that the British government would disoccupy the island of Trinidad. It is, of course, altogether improbable that Mr. Bayard would have made a statement so unwarranted and so unimprobable. What he really said, if he permitted himself to express an opinion on the subject, probably was that, if the right of Brazil to the island is demonstrated, England will not hesitate to surrender it.

—In a letter to the *Jornal do Commercio* of the 4th inst., Dr. Paulo Affonso complains of the apathy of the people in regard to vaccination, and of the obstacles created by the army and police authorities who have denied permission to the doctors to enter the barracks to vaccinate the soldiers. Much has been done to check the epidemic of small-pox now raging here by promptly visiting the places where cases have appeared, but as long as the people are indifferent and the police and military forces are permitted to spread the disease, it will be impossible to bring it under complete control.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

No Defecção: Comentários à Mito do Dr. José Jauru; by Justus. A repudiation of articles written for the *Diário de Pernambuco* upon the assassination of Dr. José Maria.

Relatório anual da Associação Cristã de Moços. The retiring officers report the association to be in a fairly prosperous state. It has only just closed its second year, but it has a membership of 108, and has a cash balance to its credit. This is certainly a creditable showing for a society so young.

Reminiscências sobre Vultos e Fatos do Império da República; by Padre João Manoel. Amparo: Typ. Correio Amparense, 1895. Few men of the present day in Brazil are better known as controversialists than Padre João Manoel, and for this reason his reminiscences will be full of interest to all Brazilians. He has long been known as a man who has the courage of his convictions—a rare trait among his contemporaries, we fear—and it may therefore be assumed that he will say what he thinks without fear. The articles composing this volume were first published in the *Correio Amparense* during the state of siege, at a time when the free discussion of political questions was much restricted.

História Constitucional da República dos Estados Unidos do Brasil. Vol. III., by Felisbello Freire. Rio de Janeiro: Typographia Alhambra, 1895. The completion of the third volume of Dr. Felisbello Freire's important work has been awaited with keen interest, for it treats of subjects of daily discussion. The constituent assembly; the federal organization, with its division of revenues, systems of taxation, banking privileges, etc.; the legislative power, with the senate and tribunes of senate and house; the powers of Congress, particularly with reference to certain important questions which have come before it; distinctions between laws and resolutions; the President and Vice-President, their election, powers, cabinet and responsibility; the judiciary; the states and their minor political divisions—all these are questions of the day, and are almost as far from settlement as they were in 1890. It is essential, therefore, that the discussion should be free and full, and to this end the author has made a most important contribution.

COFFEE NOTES

—The state of Minas Geraes has opened a revenue office in this city (No. 1 Rua Municipal) for the collection of the state export duties on coffee, heretofore paid at the federal custom-house. The office was opened on the 1st inst., and is provided with a staff of 38 officials. If every public department is provided with officials on this scale, we can easily understand the necessity of maintaining high rates of taxation.

—A recent labor commission in Hawaii sees no reason why the coffee industry should not be made to equal the cultivation of sugar in that country. The soil and climate are favorable and the demand for laborers is readily supplied by the Japanese whose contracts with sugar planters have expired. But the commission says this incident raises the question whether the accidental or oriental civilization should dominate there. They recommend that vigorous efforts be made to induce emigration to Hawaii of farmers from the United States.

COFFEE IN JAVA.

In a report on the trade and industries of Java, Consul MacLachlan has the following to say in regard to coffee:

The total production from private and government lands has been 50,500 tons as against 18,700 tons in 1893. Provided that atmospheric conditions are favorable, an increased quantity from land is being continually opened up in the east end of the island, the crops from which are now coming, for the first time, on the market.

The cultivation of the Liberian bean, both in mid and west Java, is rapidly increasing and the satisfactory results obtained from its introduction become year by year more apparent as the principal difficulties attending the preparation of this coffee for the market are gradually being successfully surmounted. As a result a marked improvement in the appearance and quality of the coffee is noted, and its favor is becoming more and more assured.

The continual recurrence of the so-called "leaf disease" in the Java coffee on low-lying lands, from which the Liberian still preserves comparative, though by no means entire immunity, causes some confusion to be felt in the latter, and many lands which have suffered most severely from the ravages of this disease in the Arabian plant are being relinquished to Liberian.

May 3rd it was decided to give up the government cultivation of coffee in the Kinawang reserve, and on January 1st, 1895, the law rendering the delivery in this district to government obligatory, was repealed.

LIBERIAN COFFEE IN SUMATRA.

An old Ceylon coffee planter writes to the *Ceylon Observer* as follows in regard to Liberian coffee in Serlang, Sumatra:

The following figures are all calculated in kates and piculs:—1 katie=1½ lb, 100 katies=1 picul, 1 picul=134½ lbs. avoidupois.

The figures given on page 50 of the *Planting Moleworth* work out thus:—

123,000 cherries=1 cwt. clean coffee. Free

137,446 cherries=1 picul clean coffee. So far Ceylon.

My experience in another country with old coffee and poor soil is that 220,000 cherries=1 picul clean coffee. Here in Serlang it has been found that 160,000 cherries=1 picul clean.

It is of course well-known that the size of the cherry and of the bean diminishes as the tree grows older. Therefore the deduction is that the Ceylon figures were gathered from young coffee in good soil.

My figures were, as I have stated, from old coffee in poor soil. The Serlang grove was from coffee between 4 and 5, growing in splendid land, but worked "on the cheap."

Here, I myself have counted several trees of 20 months old, and found several with fruit on them from 2,000 to 2,430 per tree. This is equivalent roughly to a katie a tree. Trees planted to it by 10 lb.=435 per tree. Result, pl. 435=100th per acre before the trees are 3 years old. I do not, of course, pretend to state that all the 20 months old bushes are like this. But it will give nearer 2 piculs per acre than I before it is 3 years old. The trees are healthy and making new wood.

A neighbour has counted on some of his four-year-old trees, now rising five, as many as 4,000, 5,000, 6,000, and even 7,000 fruit on a single tree. Work this out at 435 trees per acre, and 2,000 cherries per katie of clean coffee; and say if it is not better than a smack in the face with a dead rat.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received from an obliging friend the following:—

From coffee 18 years old, after having been abandoned for five years, the yield per tree was from 2 to 3 katies. Each katie=2,212 beans clean coffee from 1,426 cherries. Both the yield after abandonment, and the large proportion of clean coffee (not parchment) from the cherry speak volumes for the soil.

BUSINESS NOTES

—Santa Rita de Passa Quatro is to be lighted with electricity.

—The Café de Londres at Santos has changed its name to Café Trindade.

—The *Commercio do Espírito Santo* says that at Victoria oranges have recently sold for 400 reis each.

—The new contract with the Amazon Steam Navigation Company was signed on the 3rd inst.

—The wool used at the Rink factory in this city for the manufacture of woollen goods, comes from the Cape of Good Hope.

—It is stated that the *Don Quixote* sold over 12,000 copies of the number containing the picture of Admiral Saldanha da Gama.

—A rough diamond, said to weigh 646 grammes (!) recently found at Leopoldes, was sold at Bahia for 100,000\$000 and is valued by its present owner at 150,000\$000.

—Minister Assis Brazil, who has purchased 12 houses in Turkey, finds that, if he wishes to ride there, he must go to that country, for the Sultan has prohibited the exportation of horses.

—It is stated that the steamers belonging to a French and an Italian company will leave off touching at Pernambuco if the governor of the state continues to collect the tax of 300 reis per ton on shipping.

—It is said that the state government of Rio de Janeiro has undertaken to settle the claims of the company for guaranteed interest on the Santa Isabel do Rio Preto railway. The interest due for 1894 will soon be liquidated, 106,000\$ having already been paid on account.

—A telegram of the 2nd inst. from Macéio states that the governor of Alagoas has received per str. *Salema* 1,000 repeating rifles, 75,000 cartridges, 300 bayonets and a machine gun. As the governor apparently means business, we put this item in our "Business notes."

—It is stated that the customs *conferentes* collected 246,165\$185 in "differences" in June at the doors of the custom-house. Much of this is due to bad classifications, and not a little to official imposition. Improper classification is so common an occurrence, that it requires no explanation.

—Deputy Augusto Montenegro is clearly a prodigy in figures. He says that the two foreign life insurance companies have sent 215,000,000\$ out of the country in the last twelve years, but he does not tell us how they managed to obtain it. The deputy's imagination is evidently running away with him.

—It is interesting to note that a considerable and increasing volume of merchandise for localities in Minas and São Paulo which have been generally served by the Central railway, now go by way of Santos and the city of São Paulo. This helps to increase the trade of Santos, and to diminish the trade of Rio.

—On the 31st ult., there was seized in this city, at the instance of the representative of the Compagnie Péninsulaire, a large quantity of imitation Vichy water. The falsification of Vichy water has been going on for a long time, and so openly that we have known restaurant-keepers to admit that they were using the spurious article. Shameful as the speculation is, the authorities have been wholly inefficient in regard to it.

—We take much pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement of the Crown Perfumery Co. which appears in another column. The products of this company are already known here, but it is desirable that they should be better known, for they rank among the best produced in Europe. The special representative of the company, Mr. E. Haack, is now here in Rio and is engaged in extending the market for these products.

—During the half year ending June 30th last the Amazon districts exported 10,553,811 kilos of rubber, of which 6,217,412 went to the United States and 4,336,399 in Europe. In the same period of 1894 the exports were 10,456,557 kilos, of which 5,627,128 went to the United States and 4,829,429 to Europe. On June 30th last the stock of rubber in Pará and Manaus was only 68,000 kilos, against 324,000 kilos on June 30, 1894.

—There is something very curious about the speech of Medeiros e Albuquerque against the foreign life insurance companies on the 31st. His type-written notes, as well as the statements offered, suggested that they had originated in an insurance company's office. If the signs are correct, the trusted representatives of a certain foreign company are grossly deceiving and betraying their employers. The more we see of this scheme, the more we feel convinced that there is a conspiracy behind it that is anything but patriotic.

—According to the report of the minister of industry the immigrant arrivals last year for the ports of Rio de Janeiro and Santos numbered 32,294, of which 33,733 landed at Rio de Janeiro and 29,561 at Santos. Of the 33,733 landing here, 14,513 were Italians and 14,200 Portuguese, 24,387 males and 9,346 females, 16,488 destined for this city and 11,899 for São Paulo. In view of the circumstance that 31,835 are described as "agriculturalists" it would be interesting to know why 16,488 elected to remain in this city. Possibly sidedriving buccle pursuits.

—We see by our London exchanges that the new cable company for the Amazon was floated there early in July, under the concession granted to Mr. R. J. Kelly, of the Western and Brazilian Company. The company is to be known as "the Amazon Telegraph Co., Limited," its capital £250,000 in 25,000 shares of £10 each, and the cable is to be laid by Siemens Brothers & Co., Limited. The total length of the cable, from Pará to Manaus, will be 1,365 miles, which must be laid before March 1, 1896. The company will receive an annual subsidy from the Brazilian government of 217,125 for 20 years, and at the end of 20 years the cable reverts to the government. The government also reserves the right of purchase after the first ten years the price to be based on outlay and traffic income of preceding five years. The company pays £211,000 for the construction and laying of the cable, and the transfer of the concession, the balance being available for working capital. In all probability the line will be worked by the Western and Brazilian.

—It is estimated that within two years 920 houses will have been constructed at Bella Horiz zone. It is thought that there will be many applicants for town lots at the sale which takes place on the 10th inst.

—Really, the coaches for the life insurance companies will not be half attractive to their business! On the 31st they put Medeiros e Albuquerque forward to say that in three years the Equitable had sent 900,000\$000 out of the country, and then two days later they allowed Augusto Montenegro to say that the two companies had sent 215,000,000\$ out of the country in twelve years. If, then, the Equitable sent 900,000\$ away in three years, then it may be assumed that 3,600,000\$ represent the sum sent away in twelve years, consequently the New York Life must have sent away the balance of 211,400,000\$. Surely the coaches could not have intended this!

FINANCIAL NOTES

—The export duties collected for the state of Minas Geraes in July amounted to 731,644\$042.

—The customs receipts at Ceará amounted in 1894 to 5,113,257\$133, against 5,434,400\$671 in 1893.

—The revenue of the state of Ceará amounted last year to 2,226,865\$863 and the expenditure to 1,579,007\$854.

—The July receipts of the Paraquana custom-house were 163,246\$737, against 55,976\$666 in the same month of last year.

—In Alagoas the state legislature has fixed the expenditures for 1896 at 1,502,623\$25, and has estimated the revenue at 1,560,191\$778.

—Between April, 1894, and March, 1895, no less than 134 public employees were relieved from the service. These employees cost the treasury 423,353\$423 per annum.

—The President has signed the bill making a deficiency appropriation of 4,516,323\$080 for the navy department and that making a deficiency appropriation of 600,000\$000 for public relief.

—In July the customs receipts amounted to 1,210,504\$554 at Porto Alegre and 680,145\$673 at Rio Grande, against 863,035\$996 at the former port and 384,087\$772 at the latter in the corresponding month of 1894.

—The state of Minas Geraes has made an agreement with that of S. Paulo for the collection of duty on Minas products shipped from the port of Santos. It pays a commission of ¼ % on the gross amount thus collected.

—In 1892 the minister of finance asked for 4,016,516\$045 for pensions and retired public functionaries. For 1896 he requires 8,325,137\$423, this item of public expenditure having nearly doubled in four years.

—The receipts of the Santos custom-house for July were 3,528,829\$546, against 1,071,507\$456 in the corresponding month of 1894. A part of this increase is due to the delays and difficulties encountered on the Central railway.

—The July receipts of the Natal (Rio Grande do Norte) custom-house amounted to only 8,391\$643, against 89,738\$016 in the same month of last year. The small states of the north seem to be passing through a very serious crisis.

—A São Paulo telegram of the 4th says that a person well known in Campinas¹ has been arrested for passing counterfeit 2000 notes. On that day the police searched a business house in Jalcia Falcão and discovered a quantity of counterfeit notes concealed in sacks of Indian corn.

—The budget committee of the Chamber of Deputies estimates the gold disbursements of the treasury for 1896 at 39,294,528\$601. This, however, does not include the interest and sinking fund of the recent loan, or of that of the Oeste de Minas railway, nor any of the purchases ordered by the government in Europe and the United States.

—The July receipts of the custom-house of this port were as follows:

Imports, schedule.....	4,919,769\$518
do. surtaxes.....	2,804,192\$181
do. other taxes, labor and warehouse charges.....	367,395\$608
Port dues.....	22,164\$610
Export duties; for Minas.....	731,644\$042
do. for fed. gov't.....	23,147\$844
Tobacco tax.....	18,779\$050
Extraordinary.....	54,768\$901
Deposits.....	55,986\$422
Hospital tax.....	20,400\$355
Municipality.....	

Total..... 9,093,230\$307

—The situation continues to be far from reassuring. The resistance of the Jacobins to pacification. Rio Grande is believed to be triumphant, all the dangerous political questions, foreign and domestic, are still unsettled, Congress in the last month of the session is just beginning to discuss the budget and the reports of the budget committee show that no serious effort has been made in favor of a retrenchment policy even of the mildest kind. For the war department, for which 29,000,000\$ had been voted in 1894 and with which, it is stated, nearly 100,000,000\$ was actually spent, the government asked for the coming year, for 48,122,401\$809, which the committee is unwilling to discuss. For the department of finance, the committee proposes to grant 117,177,372\$878, instead of 106,919,780\$217 for which the government had asked. In these two items alone there is, consequently, an increase of 15,000,000\$ over the estimates of the minister of finance, whose fictitious equilibrium between revenue and expenditure is thus completely upset. If even on paper this is the case, we can well imagine, judging by the results of previous years, what it will be in reality.

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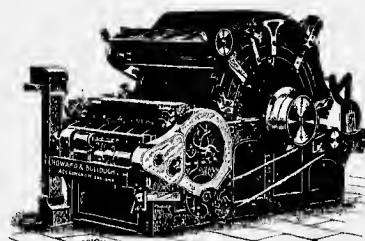
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REDD, Thomas: at one time Chief Engineer of Brazilian
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DEYTON, Thomas: (or any members of the family) at one
time residing at Montebello and Puma, near Itapemirim and
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Rio de Janeiro, 27th July 1895.

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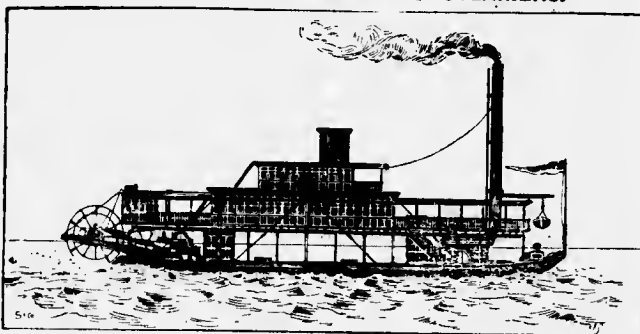
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Rio de Janeiro, 3rd August 1895.

H. W. STACEY, Hon. Sec.

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